The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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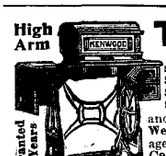

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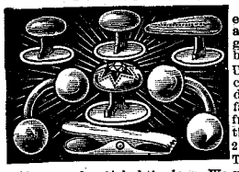

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EX-JUDGE NOAH DAVIS ON ANNEXATION

He Discusses Musick's New Book "Hawaii, Our New Possessions."

HOPES IT WILL BE READ BY ALL PATRIOTIC AMERICANS.

The following letter from Ex-Judge Noah Davis, of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, contains a very interesting discussion of John R. Musick's new book, "Hawaii, Our New Possessions," * particularly with reference to its attitude towards annexation. This is only one feature of this most interesting book, but it is the feature which calls forth a statement of Judge Davis's own views on the subject, as follows :

NEW YORK, Dec. 17, 1897.

I have read with much interest the book entitled "HAWAII, OUR NEW POSSESSIONS," by John R. Musick.

The proposed annexation of the Hawaiian Islands to the United States, by treaty or otherwise, makes the subject of this book extremely interesting. Very little is known in this country of the character and condition of the people of Hawaii, or of the extent and nature of that country, or of the benefits we can derive from their prompt admission to a common citizenship with us. In his book Mr. Musick gives us in a very plain and simple way, and evidently with no intention to exaggerate or give false coloring in any particular, a narrative of what he has himself seen and known. His story carries conviction of its truth in its simplicity and absence of exaggeration in any of its particulars. It is indeed as a narrative, such a plain and simple statement, as an honest witness would give to an intelligent jury, of the facts to be passed upon by them. His own convictions, however, are thoroughly in favor of annexation; but he seeks to show the grounds of his conclusions in such a manner that all his readers are left to judge for themselves.

The effect his book has upon my mind is, that notwithstanding there are conditions, and facts, and circumstances existing in Hawaii which, standing alone, would make annexation to this country undesirable, yet there is nothing in them that should stand against or overcome the great state and national necessities that make annexation so important to the future growth and power of our country. There is nothing in the features seemingly objectionable to prevent annexation that will not be speedily overcome by the new moral and political atmosphere into which annexation will bring those islands.

But if we reject this opportunity, who can foretell the possible evil consequences that the next quarter of a century will bring upon us? Into whose hands will those islands fall? What other power will possess them, and thereby largely command the commerce of the Pacific, and wield the tremendous enginery of naval power which such possession will insure? The vast stretch of our Pacific coast and possessions must be protected or surrendered, if another and a foreign power possesses the Hawaiian Islands, albeit such power would be a continual threat always injurious to the peace and prosperity of our country. But if the United States accepts and controls them as a part of her domain, the Pacific can retain its name of PEACE and our country can be the guardian of that great blessing of mankind on that ocean.

If we reject the proffered annexation we must declare that no other power of the world shall accept it, and thus invoke and create animosities more extensive and injurious than will ever grow out of our acceptance. If "the Monroe doctrine" applies, then *rejection* is more than likely to breed war; for some great naval power now existing, or rapidly growing, will possess and obtain dominion (with or without consent of Hawaii), leaving us no other course than to win by force of arms a country which is now begging us to accept and protect her.

To annex Hawaii now, at her own entreaty, is peace—permanent peace and prosperity. As part of our Union, and under a Territorial government, those islands will soon become what Cuba would be now, if forty years ago we had purchased her at forty millions (as it was claimed we might do) and had enfranchised her when slavery ceased to be our curse.

Mr. Musick's book shows us with how little labor and expense Hawaii may be made an American Paradise, in the healthfulness of her climate, the beauty and grandeur of her scenery, the fertility of her soil, and the docility of her people.

It shows also its value to America as a guardian outpost, which will enable us to protect our vast Pacific coasts and possessions; and largely to secure to all the world the freedom and safety of ocean commerce on the true basis of national equality.

I trust Mr. Musick's book will be widely read, because I think it will show the importance of immediate action and the danger of delay.

There is but one Hawaii in the world, and that must be a part of our American republic *now;* by her own free-will and gift, or by and by, by the bloody arbitrament of war. It is for us to choose. Very truly yours,

NOAH DAVIS.

---

*__Hawaii: Our New Possessions.__ *By John R. Musick. 8vo, xxii, 524 pp., and 56 full-page half-tone plates. Cloth, $2.75; Half Morocco, $4.00. New York and London: Funk & Wagnalls Co.*

CONSUMPTION.

What It Is—How It Arises—And How It Is Now Treated with Success.

(*Extracts from Dr. Hunter's Lectures on the Progress of Medical Science in Lung Diseases.*)

Following the various forms of Catarrhal and Bronchial disease which I have described, we come next to that lamentable complaint known to everybody under the name Consumption. It is greatly dreaded by the people because not understood. By physicians it has for centuries been worse treated than any other affliction in the long catalogue of human diseases.

Formerly all medical schools taught and physicians believed Consumption to be a disease of the blood and general system. This false pathology and the false and fatal treatment which they based upon it sacrificed millions of precious lives. Now it is universally conceded by the profession that the old theory was utterly untrue and untenable.

Forty-five years ago (1851) I first discovered Consumption to be a local disease of the lungs. In 1852 I published a book on it, giving my researches and the grounds for my belief. In 1855 I contributed a series of articles to the "Specialist and Journal of Diseases of the Chest," of which I was then Editor, contending that the local theory was the only true doctrine of the disease, and the local treatment the only one that opened up any promise of its cure.

Had my views been then received and my discoveries accepted by the profession as they should have been, all the sufferings and premature deaths by Consumption since caused by false doctrine, heresy, and empiricism might have been averted.

Unfortunately for science and humanity, physicians, as did the Israelites of old, rejected the truth, and for forty years continued to flounder in the wilderness of error—from 1851 to 1891. Like Ephraim, they were wedded to their idols and remained steadfast to their delusions.

In 1891 all this was happily changed for the better. The theory taught by me in 1851 was proved and accepted by the leading teachers and authorities of medicine throughout the civilized world, as the "ONLY TRUE" doctrine of the disease, and since then has been taught in all medical colleges and incorporated into all text-books for the instruction of students of medicine.

Thus after centuries of opposition and denial, the LOCAL NATURE and GERM ORIGIN of Consumption is recognized and becomes the established doctrine of medical science. It is now conceded that no Consumption can arise without the tubercle bacillus, a poisonous germ of the air, gets into the lungs to produce it.

As the germs that cause Consumption first act locally upon the lungs, and the disease which they produce has its seat in the lungs, it follows that it is always a local germ disease of that organ. It is an axiom of medical science that local diseases require local treatment for their cure, and past clinical experience teaches that no germ disease was ever yet cured without specific germicides applied directly to the germ-infected parts.

To cure any bronchial or lung disease local treatment must be applied, and this can only be done by introducing medicated air, gas, or vapor into the tubes and cells by inhalation.

To effect the cure of Consumption we must kill and expel the germs and heal the ravages they have inflicted in the lungs. The air must therefore carry germicidal antiseptics and healing remedies to act directly on the germs and seat of the disease, or no cure will result. When properly administered, this treatment always arrests the lung disease. If it be deeply rooted the progress may not always be rapid, but the cure of Consumption under it is as certain as is the cure of other serious maladies by proper treatment.

I some years ago discovered, and am now using with great success, germicidal inhalants, under which no form of germ life can live. They are introduced by instruments which medicate the air the patient breathes. Asthma, Bronchitis, Chronic Pneumonia, and Consumption are arrested, broken up, and radically cured by them.

(*To be continued.*)

[*Signed*] ROBERT HUNTER, M.D.,
117 West 45th Street, New York.

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CORRECTION: The interview on the partition of China credited by the press and THE LITERARY DIGEST last week to Minister Denby should have been credited to Mr. Denby's son, who bears his father's name and has been a secretary of the American Legation at Pekin.—*Editor of* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

AMERICAN INTERESTS IN CHINA.

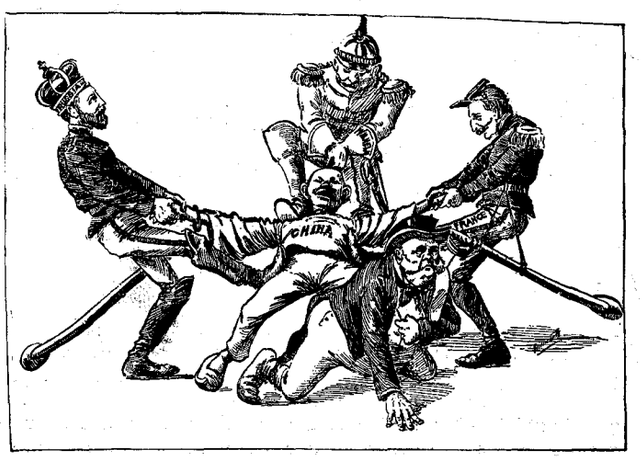
THE idea that the apparent scramble among European powers for pieces of the Chinese Empire has in it something more than trade competition, seems to be gaining ground in the American press. A number of important journals profess to find in the developments in the far East a conscious or an instinctive move of all Europe against all America, in competition for the markets of the world. American interests in Asia are held to be, under the Monroe doctrine, not political, but commercial. In accordance with this view, it is announced that the Administration, having considered the situation, will confine itself strictly to protection of American interests already existing under treaties with China. What do these interests amount to?

The most exhaustive review of our interests, present and prospective, at hand, comes from the New York *Journal of Commerce*, which discovers considerable commercial anxiety in this country over recent developments across the Pacific. It is asserted that the number of Americans in business in China is not more than eight hundred, altho some of them are important investors. The present Chinese tariff is a low one, and the Imperial Government has been trying to obtain consent from the treaty powers to increase it. If assertion of European sovereignty on Chinese soil should result in an effort to enforce higher tariff rates, restrict American rights in the treaty ports, or change coinage, prompt protest by this Government might be expected against the discrimination. Quoting one authority on trade with China, *The Journal* says that people are beginning to recognize the fact that statistics do not give a correct idea of the extent of our trade with Eastern Asia, because nearly half of it is credited to England and Hongkong. At present we are free to compete in China on even terms with other trading nations, and the amount of trade depends on commercial enterprise and activity. But the erection of artificial barriers there would be a serious matter to us.

Our trade with China, it should be said, is smaller than it was twenty years ago, perhaps owing to our legislation against Chinese immigration. Furthermore, the great discrepancy in figures quoted by different reliable journals indicates that accurate knowledge of the real amount of our trade with China is not readily available. Estimates run from sixteen to sixty millions of dollars per year; it is evident that considerable confusion in statistics exists by reason of accrediting shipments to the flags under which merchandise carriers sail—part of our trade with Japan seems to have been included in estimates of our "Asiatic trade" which are current.

The Journal of Commerce, however, takes up the general aspects of the situation from the viewpoint of the changing relations of this country to the world's commerce: "With our agricultural interest relatively stationary and an increase of one and one-half millions yearly in our population, our mining and manufacturing industries are inevitably drifting rapidly toward a vast expansion; in no other direction can we find employment for our teeming new population." Probably "fifteen years hence, there will be no nation, possibly no two nations, that will have an extent of population dependent upon the manufacturing industries equal to that of the United States." We have the capital, skill, raw materials, educated labor, cheap transportation, and natural advantages to make us the foremost industrial nation of the world.

"In view of these tendencies, it becomes a matter of the utmost importance to this country that certain of the European powers are simultaneously preparing to force the gates by which China has shut out commerce from her four hundred millions of people. If we can gain access to that vast source of consumption, the serious problem where can we find markets for our prospective surplus of manufacture?—would be in no small measure solved. But, for that very reason, it behooves us to see to it promptly that, by no act of omission or commission of ours, we become



"NOW, ALL TOGETHER!"—*From The Republican, Denver.*

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parties to the mere transfer of the key to China to a powerful monopoly that is already jealous of our competitive prowess, and from which we should have nothing to expect but much to fear. No one doubts that the seizure of Kiao-Chou by Germany and of Port Arthur by Russia means an attempt at the acquisition of the future exclusive control over the trade and territory of the Celestial Empire. Russia's protest against England occupying Wei-Hai-Wei means precisely that. There is much reason to suspect that the two emperors are acting in concert upon a previously well-considered understanding. Whether France or any other power is in the concert, is not yet evident. But it may safely be taken for granted that a scheme concocted by the two most absolute and unscrupulous of the world's monarchs will show the least possible consideration for nations outside their program. What is the real attitude of Russia and Germany toward the United States admits of no doubt in the face of Count Goluchowski's almost belligerent threat against America, uttered undoubtedly under Russian inspiration, and also in view of like sentiments openly avowed by German statesmen. At every point our leading industries stand in direct conflict with the Czar's schemes of development in Siberia as well as in the more central provinces of his empire. We, more even than Great Britain, seem to be regarded by Nicholas II. and Emperor William as the future competitors of their industries; and this fact is the more important because it is based upon solid economic reasons. . . . . .

"We can have neither interest nor sympathy in such a scheme as the emperors have undertaken. The forcing of commerce by the sword; the taxing of commerce for military establishments and expeditions; the exclusion of trade competition from the points occupied or controlled; the enforcement of preferential tariffs as a means of getting their own goods into China; the encouragement of railroad construction under which the traders of the invading powers will enjoy special privileges; and the occupation of strategic positions which will disable competing nations from protecting their respective interests or their already acquired treaty rights—these are things to be expected as a matter of course from such an invasion, from such invaders and for such ends as they may be fairly expected to contemplate. For such a scheme, the people of the United States can have no tolerance. When they come to distinctly comprehend it, they are not likely to lose much time in putting themselves on effective guard against it."

The Journal says that neither a share of the territory nor traditional friendship with any of the conquering powers should determine our attitude:

"Our true position, for the moment, is that of vigilant watchfulness, lest our future access to the markets of China be unjustly obstructed. A clear and positive affirmation must be made of our equal rights with every other nation to the commerce of that vast population. Judicious encouragement should be given to whatever offers of cooperation may be made by other nations who may desire to broaden their relations with China upon a fair and pacific basis—and there are more governments than one so disposed. Especially should such relations be cultivated with Japan; and with the power that is our nearest of kin in blood, liberty, commerce, and civilization. These events conclusively silence the objections that have hitherto been well taken against connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and annexing Hawaii. Both achievements have now become inevitable; the only question being as to whether Panama or Nicaragua would be the better route for a canal. In the presence of such possibilities as now threaten our Asiatic trade, there should also be no needless delay in making a further material increase of our navy. All this preparedness is the more necessary because such an attitude would hold the military powers in check and probably prevent a great and beneficent expansion of commerce from becoming the occasion of a destructive war."

If Treaty Rights be Involved.—"There is nothing in the present situation to warrant the United States in greatly strengthening its Asiatic squadrons. Its only interest at present, as it has been in the past, is in seeing that American property rights are protected as against possible internal trouble with China. Even should Russia permanently occupy Port Arthur, and Germany remain at Kiao-Chou, this country would not feel called upon to protest against such occupation, or demand for itself compensating advantages in the way of a naval station. The interests of the United States, beyond those which it now has, would force themselves upon Congress for consideration only in case of a partition of China affecting the treaty rights which the United States has at more than twenty ports in that country.

"An eminent authority on international affairs said to-day [December 29] that a situation might develop when the United States would be called upon to go much farther than protect American interests at the treaty ports. This situation would come if the scramble for Chinese territory went to the extent of the extinction of China and the complete absorption of the old empire by foreign nations. Such was the apparent drift of the present movement, and if it became a reality then a condition would arise similar to the extermination of Poland. Poland had established a precedent in international affairs, said the gentleman alluded to, and, following that precedent, if China was to be absorbed, then it was a question of which the United States, in common with all the nations of the world, must take cognizance. Until this final movement occurred, however, it was plain that the United States had no interest in the fencing of European nations and Japan for coaling-stations and ports on the Asiatic coast."—*Maj. J. M. Carson, Washington Corrrespondent of The Ledger, Philadelphia.*

Diplomacy and Events.—"The [reported] advances made by the British Government to our own on this subject [of joint action] constitute an illustration of the development of the influence of institutions on diplomacy, which events will not permit this country to ignore much longer. In the Eastern question, the powers were separated into two groups by the influence of their own domestic political institutions. The powers absolutist and those approximating absolutism, Russia, Germany, and Austria, were in one group, with France dependent, more or less, by reason of its alliance with Russia; while the other group was made up of England and Italy. Occasionally both France and Austria drifted toward the second group, and it must be said of them that, while they went with Russia and Germany, they did not go either so far or so fast as the Czar and the Kaiser desired.

"We see a similar reflection of governmental ideas in the developments in the far East. On the continent of Europe, too, there is a manifest lining up of the absolutist and quasi-absolutist powers against the United States. In Germany and Austria there is more or less talk in high official circles about concerted action against the United States to stand off its industrial competition. From an industrial compact to a political compact would be but a step, and with such an absolutist as the Kaiser on the throne of Germany, whose dislike of our institutions is scarcely less disguised than his hatred of England, the advance would always be threatening. . . . . .

"Our policy should be a frank and friendly understanding with England, as a power that is naturally in racial and political sympathy with us. That understanding may come more quickly than most people realize, for events are no respecters of precedents or personalities."—*The Transcript (Ind. Rep.), Boston.*

America Can Beat Competitors.—"If, as seems to be written in the book of national fate, the Celestial but unprogressive empire is to be opened up to civilization, gridironed with railroads, and made a great center of modern industry and progress, we will take a hand in the struggle for commercial supremacy with great pleasure, and with every prospect of success. We can meet this sort of competition without difficulty if we will properly utilize our natural resources and advantages. A few months ago an American firm underbid all competitors, and furnished the material for a railway in India, and it can repeat this performance indefinitely in China and every other quarter of the world. American-made machinery and inventions, as well as American agricultural products, are finding a wider market every year, and when our European friends have obligingly developed a new commercial field in China, American enterprise will be on hand there, too. We are building several war-ships for Japan just now, and we will be happy to build any other vessels that may be needed by foreign powers. . . . Let Europeans delight to bark and bite, for it is their misfortune to be obliged to do so, or, at least, they labor under that impression. But our mission is that of peaceful development, and if they must quarrel, we should see to it that we piously refrain from wicked war and devote our energies to obtaining a full share of the trade and commerce created by new conditions in the East and elsewhere. Of course,

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if American interests or American citizens are threatened by complications in the East, this country will know how to protect them and maintain its own dignity."—*The Sun (Ind.), Baltimore.*

Non-Interference.—"The Japs wanted us to help them at a pinch, but we kept out. China begged our help, but we remained neutral. The result is that we have the highest confidence of both nations, and our good counsel is listened to as that of no other nation. Other nations resort to compulsion, while we rely on friendship and fair dealing. We have good-will where others have enmity. Our trade goes by favor where that of others goes by force. What do we care who owns China? They are all one as friendly as another and we shall gain nothing by taking sides. What we might get on one side, we should lose on the other. Our reliance must be ever on fair dealing, good products, and reasonable prices. With these we have nothing to fear, but all to gain.

"But the general foreign policy of the nation has been modified in one direction. Monroe announced the amendment embodying the doctrine called by his name, tho originated in England and formulated by Jefferson, that as to the territory of this Continent it is for our interest that there be permitted no more colonization or territorial appropriation by European governments. Our interference in foreign affairs goes no further than that. As to the rest of the world, they can fight it out as they please; we are content. How it would tickle those old codgers, the crowned heads of Europe, if they could break through these two rules governing our policy and embroil us in wars on their shores! How they would like to pounce upon us, if we would only give them a chance!"—*The Journal (Rep.), Kansas City.*

"Great Britain is the foremost customer of the United States, and anything that affects her prosperity must affect ours. Anything that interferes with her commerce or her foreign influence endangers American welfare, because it endangers the resources of a patron of American institutions. This country can look with confidence upon English loss of trade only on one condition, and that is that we get it ourselves. Russia is destined to be a formidable rival of the United States. Russia is the only other nation on the globe capable of sustaining herself and supplying other nations from her resources. Our commerce with Russia can not be great, as it is with England, for Russia is a creator, not a buyer or trader. There is but one course open. If Great Britain is to lose her prestige to any extent, her place in the commercial world must be appropriated by the American, who from his situation, with his seaports on both oceans, can whiten the seas with his sails and fill every market with his products of mine, mill, and farm."—*The Times (Rep.), Pittsburg.*

"Our ships will look to it that American citizens are not interfered with, and we will probably refuse to recognize British, German, or Russian occupation of Chinese territory for a long time after such occupation is an accomplished fact; but beyond that we will do nothing. The attention of our legislators is too absorbed in scheming for the liberation of Cuba, for the annexation of Hawaii, to care anything about the dismemberment of China, altho the dividing up of that vast region by the powers of Europe means that our trade with that far East will soon be at an end. France has set the example in Madagascar, which will be followed in China, and when Russia, Germany, France, and England have annexed all the territory of that effete empire, American goods will be refused admission by a system of prohibitive tariffs."—*The Picayune (Dem.), New Orleans.*

"The time has passed when we could boast of having no foreign policy. While the national land-grabbers are abroad and the great powers of Europe use their strength to bulldoze the weaker nations, and political and commercial schemes are unfolding on such a gigantic scale, the United States is bound to have a foreign policy. She must be heard on many of the questions daily arising, and she has interests that Europe can not despise. The importance of the Panama or Nicaragua canal, which will add almost beyond calculation to the activity in the Pacific Ocean, becomes apparent at once, and the reasons for European interest in the construction and control of such a waterway from the Atlantic to the Pacific are evident. The Hawaiian question also assumes new interest, and is lifted to greater importance by these sudden developments in the East. We are bound to have distinctively American policies in both these matters, and are bound to vigilant observation of events in the farther East."—*The Commercial Advertiser (Rep.), New York.*

STATISTICS CONCERNING BANK FAILURES.

IN all the financial discussion of recent years little information of value concerning failures of banks has been forthcoming. From a study of recent reports by Controller Eckels, the Chicago *Record* brings out the important fact that savings-banks lead all the rest in the percentage of failures. The losses from bank failures up to 1896 and 1897 had been largely a matter of conjecture, figures having been obtained only from the national banks. Controller Eckels, however, made use of the fifty-eight national bank examiners for collecting some information about state banks and trust companies, savings-banks and private banks and bankers. Comparisons indicate that the institutions under national supervision are much safer places of deposit than the state and private banks, as is shown by the following tables from Controller Eckels's report:

Class.	No. in existence Oct. 31, 1896.	Failures. No.	Per ct.
National banks	3,679	27	.73
State banks and trust companies	4,944	59	1.01
Savings-banks	764	9	1.18
Private banks	3,552	42	1.18
Totals	12,939	137	1.06

Class.	No. of banks in existence July 1, 1897.	Failures. No.	Per ct.
National banks	3,619	38	1.05
State banks and trust companies	4,099	56	1.36
Savings-banks	1,273	19	1.49
Private banks and bankers	3,826	47	1.23
Totals	12,817	160	1.25

The Record says that the figures as to the percentage of failures do not tell the whole story about them:

"Since 1863 330 national banks, or about 6½ per cent. of all created, have failed. The average percentage of dividends paid to creditors of national banks whose affairs are entirely closed is about 75 per cent. The reports of state banks failed since 1863, so far as information concerning them could be secured by the controller, show that 192 such insolvent banks paid dividends to creditors of less than 25 per cent.; 203 paid 25 per cent. and over, but less than 50 per cent.; 184 paid 50 per cent. and over, but less than 75 per cent.; 128 paid 75 per cent. and over, but less than 100 per cent., and 158 banks paid 100 per cent. While the average dividend payment of insolvent national banks, therefore, was 75 per cent., nearly as many insolvent state banks paid less than 50 per cent. dividends as paid that amount or over. The dividend payments of insolvent private banking institutions are smaller yet, but the figures can not be given with accuracy. In many such cases the creditors have received nothing whatever. Not only, therefore, are there fewer failures of national banks than of other banking institutions, but the percentage of loss to creditors is smaller in the case of national-bank failures than in the case of insolvency of state or private banks."

Reviewing the incomplete figures that have been obtained concerning failures of national banks since they were first established, *The Record* finds a basis for estimating the losses from failures of banks of all kinds:

"Of the 330 national banks that have failed since the beginning of the system the accounts of 142 had been closed on October 31, 1896, for which the controller of the currency gives the following figures:

"Total claims proved, $41,593,669; total dividends paid, $30,933,694; total losses, $10,659,969. At the same ratio the total losses for the entire 330 national banks failed between 1863 and 1896 probably would approximate $25,000,000.

"It is difficult to estimate what may have been the losses from failures of other than national banks for the same period, but the amount very greatly exceeds the losses by national-bank failures. For the year closed August 31, 1896, there were failures of 110 state banks and trust companies, savings-banks and private banks, with assets of $7,447,546 and liabilities of $9,174,102. On the face of the figures this statement shows a loss for the single year of nearly $2,000,000, which in reality will be greater, as the assets probably will shrink before final settlement is made. For the panic year of 1893 the number of failures reported to the controller was 261 banks with nominal assets of $54,828,690, and lia-

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bilities of $46,766,818, upon which dividends had been paid in 1896 to the amount of $17,912,270. . . . . .

"In his report for 1896 Controller Eckels publishes figures giving failures as reported to him for the years 1864–96, of which the totals are as follows: Number of failures, 1,234; nominal assets, $214,312,190; liabilities, $220,629,988, dividends paid at time of making reports, $100,088,726. It is probably fair to estimate that when the accounts of such of these failed banks as are still open are finally closed the difference between liabilities and dividends paid will still be $100,000,000. This represents the losses from failures from 1863 to 1896 of banks other than national of which the controller has been able to secure definite information, but necessarily the figures are far from complete."

These statistics are used by *The Record* to sustain its advocacy of postal savings-banks:

"The percentage of failures of national banks, which for the most part are for the exclusive use of the larger depositors, is seen to be considerably smaller than for any other class. The percentage of failures is highest for savings and private banks, the class of institutions with which persons of small means are most likely to come in contact. These figures, therefore, give direct force to the statement commonly heard that the Government does more for the rich than it does for the poor. In a measure it throws the mantle of paternalism over the large deposits of the wealthy and leaves the poor to safeguard their own scanty savings as best they can. . . . . .

"It is inevitable that there should be some bank failures. But every consideration of prudence and statesmanship demands the strictest government supervision in order to make the losses from such failures as small as possible. For the savings of the poor the Government should make provision for absolute safety by establishing postal banks. The small depositor is entitled to better protection than the record of failures shows he has received during the last thirty years."

PENSION PAYMENTS.

ACCORDING to Mr. Dingley, the pension bill of the Government amounts to two fifths of the entire expense of running it; others say one half. Instead of a decrease in the appropriation for pensions at this session of Congress, a slight increase over the last fiscal year is provided for, altho the amount (about $141,000,000) is not the largest pension appropriation on record, the sum in 1893 amounting to over $159,000,000 (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, August 28). The New York *Sun*, which has declared itself to be a thoroughgoing Republican newspaper, has taken the lead this year in insisting that the pension rolls are padded almost beyond belief, and that they ought to be purged forthwith for the sake both of honor and economy. The issue of December 20 contains over nine columns of matter concerning pension business to sustain the position which it takes. The practise of passing private pension bills, which is said to preclude anything like a careful examination of the merits of the claims, comes in for a share of the current criticism directed against our pension policy. From *The Sun's* article the following statements of facts and figures are taken in condensed form:

"The total of pensioners on account of the War of the Rebellion is, according to the report of the pension commissioner, 947,542, of which 65,869 are children, and 27,559 are dependent fathers, mothers, sisters, or brothers. Deducting these from the total there remain 854,114 survivors and widows drawing pensions, or 40,745 more 'survivors' and 'widows' than there are actual survivors and widows who under any circumstances could legally draw pensions.

"The pension rolls show that 733,527 persons are drawing pensions from the Government as survivors of the War of the Rebellion. That is, 6,405 more 'survivors' are drawing pensions than there are actual survivors; a fraud on its face.

"Besides the 6,405 more 'survivors' drawing pensions than there are actual survivors, 187,500 more 'survivors' are clamoring, at the doors of the Treasury for their share of the plunder. In 1873 the nation's bounty to pensioners of the War of the Rebellion was $26,502,528.96. Last year it was $139,949,717.35.

"Here is a little table compiled from the pension rolls that may be studied with profit:

Actual survivors of the war	727,122
"Survivors" drawing pensions	733,527
Survivors demanding pensions	187,500
Widows drawing pensions	213,352
Widows demanding pensions	104,938
Pensioners demanding increase	255,849
Total Rebellion pensioners on rolls	947,526
Total survivors or widows getting or demanding pensions	1,139,317

"The record of the Pension Bureau is a record of constantly increasing rolls. Look at these figures since 1883:

1883	303,658	1891	676,160
1884	322,756	1892	876,068
1885	345,125	1893	966,012
1886	365,783	1894	969,544
1887	406,007	1895	970,524
1888	452,557	1896	970,678
1889	489,725	1897	976,014
1890	537,944		

"Pension Commissioner Green B. Raum, in his report for the year ending June 30, 1891, computed the average deaths per 1,000 of soldiers at 17 and the average deaths per 1,000 of widows of soldiers at 35. The rate, of course, is much higher now. By the law of nature it increases annually.

"The actual estimated cost of the pension system the coming year, exclusive of any new schemes that Congress may be induced to adopt, is $141,263,880. Compare that item with the cost of standing armies of the Old World this year. Here are the figures:

Great Britain	$87,408,944	Russia	$176,942,600
Germany	110,187,020	Austria	67,286,255
France	118,291,430	Pensions in the United States	141,263,880
Italy	51,778,040		

"Russia alone of all the countries of the world pays more for her immense standing army than the United States pays in pensions."

H. Clay Evans (Republican, ex-governor of Tennessee), United States Commissioner of Pensions, is reported to be an advocate of the policy of publishing the pension-list. Commissioner Evans has also stated in an interview for the New York *Press* (Rep.) that, while newspaper exhibits of alleged frauds on the pension-rolls are not to be depended upon, the greatest difficulty encountered by the pension-bureau arises from the army of pension attorneys. He says that the Government ought to stop paying pension attorneys for soliciting business. This practise has lasted for thirty years, and in his opinion "a law should be passed that in the future no fee should be paid to any attorney or claim agent, for any claim filed for pensions; that would put an end to pension scandals":

"The most demoralizing feature of the pension system is the existence of 50,000 pension attorneys. The ordinary pension attorney is worse than the most pestiferous 'varmint' that ever invaded a hen-roost.

"If there are frauds on the pension-rolls they have been planted there by the pension attorneys. He it is that persuades the applicant to file a claim, leads him to believe that the Government has his name on the roll and only awaits his application; gives him to understand that the attorney is regularly commissioned and authorized and especially empowered to hunt up this particular missing soldier; tells him that all other soldiers have applied and obtained their money, and adds that, 'if you don't get yours, you are to blame.' . . . . . .

"Pension attorneys have been known to draft the laws which Congress passes for the pensioner. Fortunes have been made and are being made by this army of so-called attorneys. They practically are so many drummers—soliciting agents—that do nothing but hunt up claims and claimants for the Pension Bureau.

"The Government has seen fit to take them into partnership in the pension business. It practically pays them a bounty (a fee of twenty-five dollars) for every pensioner that can be induced to file a claim which they can prove up and have admitted. The laws are amended from time to time for the benefit of this army of pension solicitors, so that they can get more fees."

The New York *World* quotes Commissioner Evans as follows:

"Pension attorneys should never have been admitted to prac-

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tise. The Government should have kept that matter in its own hands."

"Why does not the Government take charge of the matter now and do away with the pension attorneys?"

"I do not know. In the past seven years, from 1891 to 1897, there has been paid to pension attorneys $10,110,000. There are 45,000 such attorneys entitled to practise before this bureau now."

"How many have been disbarred?"

"Last year only twenty-eight. About three hundred have been disbarred in the last ten years."

We reproduce a number of criticisms on the pension system, the significance of which is somewhat enhanced from the fact that they are all taken from Republican journals:

Breaking Party Pledges.—"If an applicant has had the shadow of a just claim to a pension the Pension Bureau has never hesitated to grant it. Indeed, the Bureau has been commonly thought to be overanxious to accommodate applicants with certificates. Claims made to Congress are, as a rule, having few exceptions, such as have been examined and rejected by the regular pension authorities, or such as the makers of them know they could not successfully sustain if they should subject them to a careful examination. Congress is the last resort chiefly of those who have no just or defensible claim to pensions. It is claims of such sort that Congress approves at the rate of 400 in a single week—a week after it had assured the country that thirty-two years following the close of the war, when the appropriation for the general pension roll is $141,000,000, or $7,000,000 less than will be required for 1898, the list has reached the limit, and that it will not be further extended except after full examination and deliberate consideration of all claims presented. How this pledge is being kept is shown by the fact that on the last day of its meeting the Senate passed 138 private pension bills in 60 minutes, or at the rate of nearly two and a half a minute. What examination or consideration could a single one of those bills have possibly received from the Senate? The truth is made manifest by the disgraceful record that there was no examination, no consideration of any one of the 138 claims approved by the Senators in the brief space of an hour."—*The Ledger* (*Ind. Rep.*), *Philadelphia.*

Pensions and Life Insurance.—"A point was raised in the discussion over the pension bill in the House of Representatives, which is likely to open up a field for official investigation. It was asserted that there are on the pension rolls a large number of veterans drawing pensions on the ground that they are disabled and physically unsound, who are at the same time carrying life insurance policies.

"Now, no life insurance company will insure a man who is physically unsound. All applicants have to undergo a searching medical examination, and the company holds the certification of their soundness of body.

"Now, if there are pensioners who are carrying life insurance policies, they must have been sound men when they were insured. If at that time they had obtained pensions, which they still draw, they are certainly not entitled to the latter. It is proposed to introduce a bill directing the commissioner of pensions to ascertain to what extent this charge is true, and to drop from the pension rolls all persons who are found to be carrying life insurance."—*The Blade* (*Rep.*), *Toledo, Ohio.*

Private Pension Speed Record.—"Just before adjourning for the holidays the Senate devoted an hour to passing private pension bills, and ran 138 of them right off the reel.

"It was a great performance, easily beating two a minute, but it was not a record-breaker either as to speed or as to total diurnal output.

"The annals of the Senate show that on one occasion that body passed 114 bills in 45 minutes, the average time per bill being 23.68 seconds. This beat a previous record of 24¼ seconds. But even that performance was outdone by one of 130 bills in 50 minutes, making the splendid time of 23.07 seconds. The merit of this last performance is sometimes impugned on the ground that 14 out of the 130 bills were vetoed, in one of them, for example, the Senate overlooking the fact that the would-be pensioner had twice deserted, the second time not returning. But it is hardly fair to expect attention to details in turning off twelve dozen bills an hour. The highest claim, however, we have ever seen made for the Senate by those on whose figures the records rest, is that of 80 bills in 30 minutes, bringing the time down to 22½ seconds.

"In volume of output there has been nothing of late, so far as we know, to equal the Senate's performance a few days ago of passing over 400 special pensions in one week, out of which the House passed and sent to the President 240 in one day. While, therefore, the Senate's current batch of 138 bills is a fair example of the rapid whirling of the legislative mill, yet if previous efforts were correctly reported, it does not hold the speed record."—*The Sun* (*Rep.*), *New York.*

Government Generosity Imposed Upon.—"Gen. H. V. Boynton, whose friendship for the veterans can not be denied, has called attention to the remarkable fact that altho thirty-two years have elapsed since the close of the war, the number of names now borne on the pension rolls is more than double the membership of all the patriotic societies of veterans to which the war gave rise, including the Grand Army of the Republic, Union Veteran Legion, Union Veterans' Union, Military Order of the Loyal Legion, Society of the Army of the Potomac, Society of the Army of the James, Society of the Army of the Tennessee, Society of the Army of West Virginia, and the Society of the Army of the Cumberland.

"While it will not be claimed that the membership of these bodies is any criterion for judging of the number of persons connected with the late war entitled to pensions, the fact that, according to the last report of the Commissioner of Pensions, the names on the rolls now aggregate more than 976,000—of which over ninety per cent. appear as soldiers of the late war or their widows—shows how liberal has been the policy of the Government in this direction.

"Every patriotic citizen believes in the payment of liberal pensions to deserving Union veterans, but there is every reason to believe that the generosity of the Government has been imposed upon. It is estimated that there are now not less than 3,000 private pension claims pending in Congress, the most of which are being pushed on the part of men whose application for a pension in a regular way has been rejected."—*Ohio State Journal* (*Rep.*), *Columbus.*

Three Needed Pension Reforms.—"Under the present law it is possible for the widow of a veteran who has married again to procure a pension, even tho she now is supported by a second husband. She may never have applied for a pension during her widowhood, but at the instigation of her new husband she may now legally collect from the Government as back pay the sum that she might have received. One instance of this nature is cited which cost the Government $3,800—a pleasant plum for the second husband. It has been stated that pensions of this class, paid to former widows, are now costing the Treasury $10,000 a day.

"Again, it is now possible for a minor child of a deceased soldier, who never applied for a pension during the term of his minority, to file a claim for the money that he would have received from the Government up to the age of sixteen. Such an applicant may be forty years old to-day, and yet when some one of the 80, 000 pension attorneys in the country discovers that he was entitled to a pension twenty-five years ago, he can file a claim at the Pension Bureau that must be allowed under the law.

"These are two defects in the pension system that are grotesquely absurd, and that tend to discredit the rolls that should be kept lustrous with honor. Another abuse is the business of young women marrying old veterans, on the verge of the grave, in order to acquire widows' pensions on the decease of their husbands. The correction of these three wrongs will surely not be opposed by any organization of veterans. It will not only save the Government millions of dollars, but it will aid to keep creditable that scroll of patriotic names which a grateful nation delights to honor."—*The Mail and Express* (*Rep.*), *New York.*

Burden Willingly Borne.—"It seems singular that thirty-two years after the close of the Civil War the pension roll should be increasing, but such is the fact. Secretary Bliss reports the total payments for the last fiscal year to be $1,584,480 in excess of those for the fiscal year ending in 1896. Moreover, there are now pending, he says, about 200,000 claims awaiting adjudication, and of these it is estimated that 4 oor 50 per cent. will be allowed. The rapid adjudication of the claims will swell the pension roll from five to seven millions of dollars the first year.

"But this is very likely to be the maximum. The estimated increase will meet the first year's payments of the new claims, including arrears, and thereafter, the Secretary thinks, the pen-

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sion roll will decrease very rapidly from the death-rate. This decrease is likely to amount to from ten to fifteen millions annually for the next few years, unless increased by new pensions and allowed, and it can not be that there are a very large number to come forward beyond the 200,000 now awaiting the adjudication of their claims.

"The pension roll is a severe burden to the national revenues, but it is one that the loyal and patriotic people of the country have willingly borne. They are willing to provide for the maintenance of the men who risked their lives to save the nation when they are disabled by wounds or disease incurred in the service, or are rendered unfit for manual labor by sickness or advancing age. All the people ask is that abuses shall, so far as possible, be kept from creeping in."—*The Tribune* (*Rep.*), *Minneapolis*.

Practical Economy.—The best reason for reducing the pension-list is entirely one of practical economy. We can well understand the feeling of Congressmen who resented Mr. Cleveland's unsympathetic attempts at cutting down the expenditure. No one likes to see the claims of veterans of the war or of their widows and orphans treated purely as a matter of dollars and cents.

"But in the present emergency, thirty years after the war, amid financial conditions that puzzle the most patriotic and thoughtful, we are brought face to face with the fact that the pension-list is the most exhausting of all drains on the national treasury. Moreover, it is increasing, and it will continue to increase until the public and the representatives of the public become convinced of the financial danger of neglecting this break in the dike of sound finances, and the moral danger of making a large part of the population dependent on government bounty. How strong the tendency is to 'give everybody a pension' is shown by Senator Thurston's bill providing for the payment of $500 outright and $15 per month to freed slaves over seventy years of age, and a smaller sum to freedmen between sixty and seventy years of age.

"Something must be done to prevent the growth of this craze. Otherwise what will avail the efforts to keep the national receipts and expenditures safely balanced? We can not go on saving at bung and wasting at spigot without inviting disastrous consequences. The pension-list should be purged. It should be freed of frauds and cheats. It should only be extended with great caution. It should be made again what it was once, a real roll of honor."—*The Times-Herald* (*McKinley Ind.*), *Chicago*.

IS THE MIDDLE CLASS HOLDING ITS OWN?

THE middle class is not likely to be exterminated as soon as many political economists have been expecting. This, at least, is now the opinion of Professor Schmoller, one of the most brilliant of the German social economists, after studying the industrial conditions of Germany. Indeed, the middle class has held its own during the last few decades and shows indications of increasing vitality. This statement comes with added force from the fact that Professor Schmoller and his fellow economists have been inclined to the opposite view. In a paper which he read before the Protestant Social Congress in Leipsic several months ago, he said:

"Twenty-five years ago, as a result of the statistical material which was then available and of the economic and social conditions then in existence, partly also in consequence of my more limited studies, I saw only one movement, the increasing differentiation of society, a dangerous menace to the middle class. Between 1850 and 1875 the German peasantry did undoubtedly lose ground. To-day I see a very complicated development. By the side of the still existing and increasing differentiation, I see the rising of all the strong and energetic elements of the lower classes and of the middle class, and I say it is a question of fact which predominates."

The Yale Review summarizes the remainder of Professor Schmoller's paper as follows:

"This general thesis is proved by Professor Schmoller in a painstaking and careful statistical study of the various elements which go to make up what is called the middle class in Germany. The peasantry, the smaller independent tradesmen, are carefully examined, and the same surprising result is reached that on the whole they have held their own. From 1700 to 1850 it seems to be evident that the peasants and mechanics increased in Germany and improved their condition; that from 1850 to 1897 the middle class in agriculture did not decrease. In industry and trade the number of independent business men did not, it is true, increase in proportion to the population, and did in some cases diminish, and the number of dependents increased very much indeed; but if we take into account the higher positions in the staff, the superintendents, the highly paid workmen, and the liberal professions, the weakening of the middle class does not seem material; indeed it may have already been overcome, and there are tendencies toward the formation of a new middle class."

Professor Schmoller's conclusions find confirmation as regards one branch of business in the inaugural address of Professor Stieda on assuming the position of rector of the University of Rostock. His subject was, "The Vitality of the Handicrafts in Germany," and *The Yale Review* summarizes the address as follows:

"The handicraftsman of the Middle Ages, that is the mechanic, not working for wages nor for a capitalist, but directly for his customers, is a figure whose decadence has often been laid at the door of the factory system, and on whose behalf the sympathy of the historical student has often been elicited. Undoubtedly many trades which were formerly carried on in the household and on a small scale are now located in large factories under superintendents and foremen, and the workers have lost a great deal of their former independence as a consequence of the wage system; but here too, there seem to be counter currents, and Professor Stieda shows very clearly that while many articles formerly produced by the handicraftsmen have ceased to be used, and many others are now produced more cheaply by means of machines, on the other hand new demands have arisen for new trades which have to be carried on on a small scale. The tinsmith and the plumber no longer make kitchen utensils, yet find occupation in the laying of gas and water-pipes, in making ornamental work for buildings, etc. The locksmith, too, no longer makes by hand complete locks, but finds occupation in the making of objects of household art, in electrical work, etc. 'The handicraft,' says Professor Stieda, 'still supports him who understands it quite well, and what it has lost in one field it has gained in another.'"

THREE NOTABLE SPEECHES.

MANY societies and lodges have on their order of business the elastic topic "Good of the Club," under which past, present, and future one or all may come in for occasional review. Our holiday season is usually taken by orators as a fitting one for discussing the "Good of the Country" on broad lines; and particularly is this the case at the various New England dinners held in commemoration of the arrival of the *Mayflower*. Three such speeches, dealing with the signs of the times, have excited unusual interest, and we reproduce portions of them as published at length in the daily press.

At the dinner of the New England Society of Brooklyn, Mr. George W. Smalley (formerly of the New York *Tribune*, now American correspondent of the London *Times*) emphasized the idea that what has become known as jingoism, is likely to bring on among foreign nations an undesirable policy of cooperation against the United States, whereas a policy looking to closer relations between the United States and her mother country would be likely to result to better advantge. His statements called forth a brief retort from Senator Hawley, expressing regret "that Mr. Smalley so little understands his own country."

"Now we are told sometimes in these days that it is not patriotic to be too friendly to the old country. Well, ladies and gentlemen, I do not agree with that. There are 35,000,000 or 40,000,000 people in the islands that Hawthorne called our old home, the majority of whom are filled with friendship and kindliness to this country. I do not say all. Yet, the immense preponderance of feeling in England is the feeling of friendship for America and for the American people. Why should we reject it? What have we to gain by a spurious patriotism, which tells us we are to

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accept nothing that is not American, and we are able to face the world without a friend? If you reject the sentimental view, if you do not care for the good-will, let us look at it on the practical side. The proof of the good-will we have seen in the last two years in a very striking way.

"What happened two years ago this month when President Cleveland launched his message of war across the Atlantic? It had only to be taken up in the spirit in which it was delivered to have made a conflict inevitable. It was received in the first place with incredulity. The Englishmen said: 'No, it is impossible he should mean it. It is impossible that the chief magistrate of the people who are our cousins should mean to provoke hostilities.' The press treated it with a moderation which it is impossible to praise too much—I mean the English press. The people of England abated not a jot of their kindliness to the people of this country. Some of our friends here said: 'Oh, the English no longer care to fight.' They waited a month, and then came the telegram of the German Emperor to the President of the Transvaal, and then you saw whether the English under a provocation that they cared to accept were ready to fight or not. The name of the German Emperor was hooted and hissed wherever mentioned, in the streets of London, in the music-halls, or at public gatherings. You never heard the name of President Cleveland hooted or hissed. Yet he had given far more provocation. It was put aside in a spirit which can only be called the spirit of brotherly love.

"Since the Venezuelan trouble—I suppose it may be thought too frank to say it—we have said and done so much as to convince continental Europe that we are a menace to the peace of the world. I do not say they are right. I say that is the state of feeling which exists among the statesmen and rulers of the great powers of the continent of Europe, Venezuela, the resolutions and speeches in Congress, and especially in the Senate, if my friend, Senator Hawley, will permit me to say so . . . our sermonizing to the allied powers about Armenia, about Greece, our continual provocation to Spain about Cuba, the new version and perversion of the Monroe doctrine, which of itself is not aggressive, but defensive and American, and finally our annexation or proposal to annex Hawaii; all these have convinced Continental powers that their best policy is to unite against this country. The Prime Minister, or rather the Chancellor of Austria, has announced, from a different point of view, his belief that an economic war is yet to be waged against transoceanic competition. For their own safety they have ultimately to adopt the policy of cooperation against this country. If we were to war to-morrow with any European country, Spain or another, there is very slight possibility that we should go to war with one power only. Now I ask you, in those circumstances, is the friendship of England worth having or not. She is the greatest financial power in the world. She is the greatest naval power in the world. Her fleet —which she can mobilize in a week—is a match for the combined fleets of any two European powers and probably a match for the combined fleets of any three European powers, that under any conceivable circumstances, could be allied against her.

"Is it worth our while with the prospect of the hostility of the continent of Europe before us to accept the friendship she offers or does patriotism require us to reject it? But these perhaps are too serious considerations for our dinner. I would rather go back to sentiment after all. I like to think of the English, if I may repeat what I have said elsewhere, as a company, wise, kindly, and an admirable people. The lesson of life they have been learning for centuries we have acquired in one hundred years. It would be strange indeed if we had nothing to learn from them. Strange it would be, too, if they had nothing to learn from us. Strangest of all if the world had not a great deal to learn from both."

Another speech attracting special attention was that delivered by Senator Edward O. Wolcott, of Colorado, in response to the toast, "The Union, One and Indivisible," at the dinner of the New England Society of the city of New York. Senator Wolcott said in part:

"In certain directions our domestic differences are crystallizing and not disintegrating. For more than a generation we have waited for the day when parties would divide solely on national questions, and when the old sectional issues growing out of the war and the race problem would be buried. The time came. The parties met on a broad economic question, and lo! we emerge from the contest threatened with another bitter sectional division. The far West, largely the child of the East, and pulsing with its blood, joins hands with the South. The new alinement is not only debtor against creditor, class against class; but in a land pervaded with equal devotion to what its people believe is the truest welfare of the whole country, great majorities in one section face equally great majorities in another.

"This is the season of good cheer, when kindly thoughts hold sway, the close of the year when old differences are forgotten, while we join in commemorating the advent of Him who taught peace on earth and good-will, and on this anniversary as we recall those early New England days when, with the fear of God always before them, our fathers gradually grew from stern, unbending insistence to a broad recognition of the right of individual judgment, there should be left no room for rancor. Sons of the Pilgrims, we remember to-night only our common mother and our common destiny, and may the hour lend its benediction to a plea for a greater tolerance.

"The West is not decadent, its views are of men virile, industrious, and genuine, and their beliefs are honest. They would scorn any sort of evasion of an obligation. They are patriotic men. There is in the whole far West hardly a Northerner born who was old enough to go to the war whom you will not see on Decoration Day wearing proudly the badge of his old corps. They are Americans; to a proportion greater, far greater, than in the East—native-born American citizens. The views they cherish are held with practical unanimity. The beliefs of the clergyman, the lawyer, the farmer, and the storekeeper are alike. You swell their ranks every year from New England colleges. The young fellows graduate and go West, grateful that you have developed their ability to reason, and they rapidly assimilate their views with those of the people among whom they cast their lot.

"A distinguished New Englander wrote the other day that the differences between the sections of our country are really differences in civilization. No man familiar with the whole country would, in my opinion, share this view. Our people would accept the statement as too complimentary to them, and if they thought you cherished the same view would desire me in courtesy to assure you that this very assemblage, in apparent intelligence and general respectability, would compare creditably if not favorably with any similar gathering at Creede, Bull Mountain, or Cripple Creek.

"So universal a feeling as that which pervades the great West can not be all wrong. You can not dispose of a conviction held by millions of intelligent people by calling it a craze, and some day you may find it worth your while to look for the truth where it is usually hidden—somewhere between extremes. The continued friction is largely generated both East and West by a certain modern type of newspaper. The plague may have started here, but it has spread and sprouted like the Canada thistle, until it is a blight in Colorado as it is a curse here and wherever it plants itself. Wherever there is a cause to misrepresent, a hate to be fanned, a slander to utter, a reputation to besmirch, it exhales its foul breath. It knows no party, no honor, no virtue. It stirs only strife and hatred, and appeals only to the low and the base. It calls itself journalism, but its name is Pander and its color is yellow.

"Difficulties also arise because of differences in the point of view. There is everywhere in the West the most cordial appreciation of the wisdom of Eastern men and the value of Eastern cooperation; but somehow it isn't really recognized out there that ability to reorganize a Western railroad and swell its stock and securities several millions every time it is foreclosed, necessarily indicates an equal ability to determine the wisest economic policy for the farmer who lives along the right of way. And men who would no more dream of entrusting their banker with the duty of formulating their financial views than they would of entrusting the man of whom they bought a shotgun with the command of the armies of their country are naturally inclined to fear that in this part of the moral vineyard there is a tendency to assume that the possession of great wealth means necessarily the possession of great wisdom. It may be, however, that we go to the other extreme and assume that a minimum of wealth naturally carries with it a maximum of wisdom; and this suggests a possible compromise whereby we might spare you some of our wisdom in exchange for some of your wealth.

"It is only a few years ago that New England was 'uncommon

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proud' of that West which her sons had so largely peopled, and her resources, lavishly ventured, had done so much to develop. Perhaps there are only supersensitive Westerners who fancy that they see in certain quarters a subtle change, an inclination to criticize, an inability to find much to commend and a tendency to look still further to the Eastward for methods and ideals fit to follow. I hope it is all a mistake. Fellow pilgrims, we mustn't turn away from each other. We must never forget, even in Presidential campaigns and after, that we are one people, and that as associates in adversity, as well as companions in prosperity, we must ever sit at the same table and take potluck together. Our form of government does not work automatically. It will be strong and will receive the world's respect to the extent that the people act wisely and intelligently. But good or bad, with high deals or low ones, Republican institutions on this continent are here to stay. It is more than a century since, for all time so far as these States are concerned, God said, 'I am tired of kings.' No other form of government is possible to us. It is this or chaos.

"If then we are harnessed together, destined to follow the road the greater numerical half shall point, we can only reach that fair day's journey, that stage in human progress, which this generation owes to the fathers of the past and the children of the future by adjusting our burdens equitably and moving evenly and pulling the load together."

The third of the speeches to which we have made reference was one on the subject, "The Business Man's Political Obligations," delivered to business men of Philadelphia by Mr. James H. Eckels, the retiring Controller of the Currency. In it he intimated that if property rights are in danger business men themselves are to blame:

"It is both a curious and unnatural condition of public sentiment which makes it a difficult thing in American political life for the successful business man to enter into its activities without subjecting himself to suspicion as to the honesty of his purpose or doubt as to the possibility of his benefiting his fellows. And yet it is not inexplainable. The reason lies in the long neglect by him of political action during the years of his accumulations and his sudden awakening to gratify an ambition which lies beyond the domain of mere wealth. The business man can not afford to rest content with simply voting on returning election days and be careless as to the men selected for public positions or the acts performed by them.

"If he does he must expect, when, after years of such indifference, he, of his own volition, thrusts himself into the arena of strife for place and power, that his sincerity will be inquired into and his motives doubted. In no other country, even of less liberal laws and restricted field of action, is wealth considered even a hindrance, much less a complete bar to a full and direct participation in legislation and the conduct of governmental affairs. It was not so with the American elector in that earlier day, when no one was too absorbed in matters of private gain to neglect the things which were essential to the public good. The strength of such a view of duty on the part of the citizen was manifest in that high esteem in which official place was held by all the people, no matter in what walk of life or the extent of their interests. No one aspired to position without acknowledged qualifications, and the interrogatory as to his capabilites and honesty meant more than idle questioning. Even under an intense and unreasoning partizanism fitness was still made the test, and the needs of the public service made him prominent.

"Within the decades which have witnessed the business man withdrawing himself from a continuing interest in political affairs, in order to devote his talents to the acquisition of wealth, the public has lost its high esteem for the office itself, and with that want of respect more than one position of trust, of great and far-reaching importance, has been permitted to fall into unworthy hands. The taxing power in States and municipalities in now more often under the control of those who are without any direct personal interest in the rate of tax to be imposed than of those whose property must bear its burdens. Not infrequently the prosperity of the practical politician finds its source in following a line of action which, through a city council or a state legislature, either increases taxation by means of extravagant appropriations to aid private undertakings, or lays blackmail upon business interests to curtail the same.

"The business men who neglect their political duties to simply gain wealth pay for their folly by finding themselves without the power to protect it from public assault, unless through either direct or indirect purchase of that right. I have no sympathy with those who, having entered into a conspiracy against good morals and the public well-being by making possible, for the sake of individual comfort, the robberies of the political highwayman, are at last driven to complain, on finding their property rights jeopardized and their accumulations threatened. The purchase of immunity from legislative attack may at the outset be less expensive and easier of method than a manly defense of guaranteed rights and active participation in political strife, but in the end there comes the immeasurably greater evil of a debauched citizenship and a corrupted law-making power."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

As a last resort Mr. Dingley might lay it to the sun-spots.—*The News, Detroit.*

THE concert of Europe is now being given in the Asiatic backyard.—*The Leader, Cleveland.*

EUROPE finds China a foeman worthy of her steal.—*The Chronicle-Telegraph, Pittsburg.*

THE situation in China seems to be one of Confucian worse confounded.—*The Plaindealer, Cleveland.*

IT is much easier to collect apologies than cash from the Sultan.—*The Chronicle-Telegraph, Pittsburg.*

CHINA evidently wonders these days why on earth she ever invented gunpowder.—*The Times, Richmond.*

THE natural question to ask about any piece of latter-day legislation is: "Was it jammed or did it slip?"—*The World, New York.*

CHAFF.—The story of the great Armour-Leiter wheat deal will eventually be published in cereal form.—*The Inter Ocean, Chicago.*

THE Administration has finally agreed upon a financial policy. It is bimetalism abroad and monometalism at home.—*The Republic, St. Louis.*

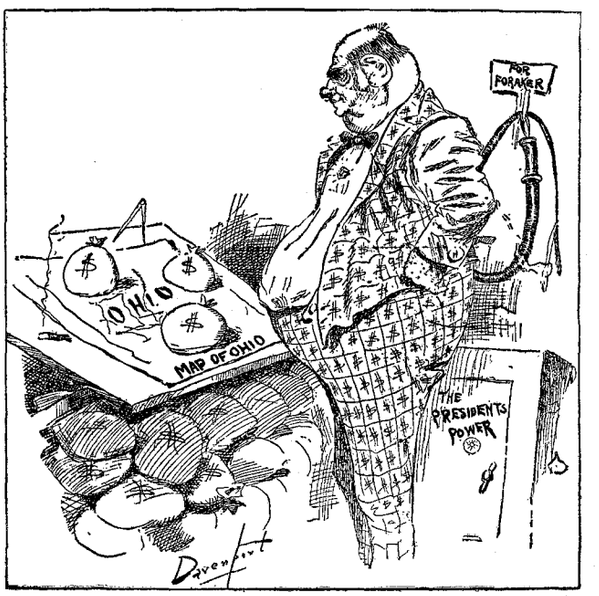
IT looks a little as if each member of the Cabinet favored the application of strict civil-service principles to all the other departments.—*The Ledger, Philadelphia.*

ROBERT A. VAN WYCK, in assuming the office of mayor of Greater New York, made this speech of acceptance: "I received this office from the people. I accept it from them, and to them I will answer."

The New York Journal's prize of $50 for the best definition of a Mugwump was awarded to a gentleman who said: "A Mugwump is like a ferryboat—he wears out his life by crossing from one side to the other."

PERSONS desiring to starve to death can take their choice between Cuba and the Klondike. While the process is quicker in the latter place, the temperature makes it more comfortable in the former.—*The Tribune, Minneapolis.*

HUM! Let us see: If China is divided up among the European powers, then its inhabitants will become British, Germans, Russians, etc., according to their territory. In that case it would seem that we can no longer exclude them from the United States, but must admit them on equal terms with their fellow subjects. How is that?—*The Ledger, Philadelphia.*



WHAT A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING APPOINTED AND BEING ELECTED TO THE SENATE.—*The Journal, New York.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

OMAR KHAYYÁM, MATHEMATICIAN AND POET.

ONE finds nowadays a constant flow of talk, in the literary journals, about Omar Khayyám (Ghias ud-din Abul Fath Omar Ibn Ibrahim al-Khayyám was the full name of him), who rested from his labors nearly eight hundred years ago. He has been known to English readers during the present generation only through the translations by Edward Fitzgerald, Justin Huntley McCarthy, and E. H. Whinfield, and the illustrations of Elihu Vedder. And now comes Le Gallienne with another metrical translation, while Heron-Allen, the erstwhile palmist, announces that he is engaged on a prose translation.

There is an Omar Khayyám Club in London, and a few days ago Colonel Hay, the American Ambassador to the Court of St. James, being a guest at its first dinner for the season, was called on for an address. He spoke in part as follows:

"Certainly, our poet can never be numbered among the great popular writers of all time. He has told no story; he has never unpacked his heart in public; he has never thrown the reins on the neck of the winged horse, and let his imagination carry him where it listed. 'Ah! the crowd must have emphatic warrant,' as Browning sang. Its suffrages are not for the cool, collected observer, whose eye no glitter can dazzle, no mist suffuse. The many can not but resent that air of lofty intelligence, that pale and subtle smile. But he will hold a place forever among that limited number who, like Lucretius and Epicurus—without rage or defiance, even without unbecoming mirth—look deep into the tangled mysteries of things; refuse credence to the absurd, and allegiance to arrogant authority; sufficiently conscious of fallibility to be tolerant of all opinions; with a faith too wide for doctrine and a benevolence untrammeled by creed; too wise to be wholly poets, and yet too surely poets to be implacably wise."

In a review of Le Gallienne's version (which is ranked, in order of merit, as below both the Fitzgerald and the Whinfield versions) the London *Academy* discourses as follows:

"Early in the eleventh century of our era a rather curious compact was entered into by three youths who were attending lectures at the famous school of Nishápúr in Khorasan. Their understanding was that whichever of them attained to fortune should share it with the other two, and not preserve it for himself. This arrangement, in which the flippant will perceive only a kind of Persian edition of 'The Three Musketeers,' was destined to have far-reaching consequences. These three schoolmates curiously enough were all fated to make a noise in the world; but the first of them to do so was Nizám ul Mulk, who became vizier to Sultan Alp Arslan. He kept his part of the agreement, and the two whom he assisted to name and fame are even better known, at any rate in Europe, than himself. One of them was Hasan bin Sabbáh, the founder of the sect of the Assassins. Nizám ul Mulk himself eventually fell a victim to a dagger directed by this terrible Old Man of the Mountain. The other was the subject of this article, the Hakim Omar Khayyám, more correctly Abul Fath Omar Ibn Ibrahim al-Khayyám. The last part of his name (M. Le Gallienne, by the way, invariably accents it upon the wrong syllable) indicates his father's profession as having been that of a tent-maker, and Omar has more than one allusion to it in his poems—*e.g.*,

"*Khayyámi ki khámahayi hikmat midúkht*";

or, as M. Le Gallienne has it:

"Khayyám who long at learning's tents hath sewn."

"Until recently Omar's reputation in the West depended mainly upon his revision of the Persian Calendar—in the words of Gibbon, 'a computation of time which surpasses the Julian and approaches the accuracy of the Gregorian style.' We remember once seeing a German encyclopedia of fifty years ago or thereabouts, which, after devoting two long columns to an account of this feat, wound up with the remark: 'Ist auch als Dichter bekannt.' The whirligig of time has brought round its revenges, and nowadays, like Lewis Carroll, it is not for his works on algebra that Omar is known. They exist, nevertheless, and were published at Paris in 1851. In 1859 Edward Fitzgerald gave the world his translation or paraphrase of the quatrains, a book which at first fell flat, but ultimately, by its four editions during the lifetime of its author, showed that the tide had turned. Henceforth Omar the mathematician and astronomer is swallowed up by Omar the pessimist, philosopher, and poet."

The quatrain (rubái, or rubái y) in which Khayyám expressed himself, was not, we are further told, an invention of Khayyám's, but was almost a national Persian meter. The first, second, and fourth lines are, in the conventional form, made to rime, the third being left blank.

THE STRANGE CAREER OF AN INSANE POET.

STEVENSON'S harrowing tale of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde seems to be matched by the veritable life of a famous French writer, Gérard de Nerval, with this difference: When Dr. Jekyll turned into his other self, he became fiendish; when de Nerval changed into his abnormal self he became a poet. Then and only then was he capable of writing those lines of ravishing beauty which at one time captivated all France. Such is the strange story which M. Arvède Barine retells in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* (Paris, November 1).

M. Barine has been for several months occupying himself with a series of articles on pathological literature. He has treated at length of de Quincey, Hoffman (Ernst Theodor Wilhelm), and Poe as illustrating various forms of this literature, and he now treats of de Nerval, whose career, in some respects, was the strangest and most pathetic of all. We quote from M. Barine:

"The first time that Gérard de Nerval saw his double he remembered that such a visitation, according to the old German legend, is a sign of death, and he was seized with fear and anguish. Nevertheless he continues to live; and when the apparition next appeared, it occurred to him that possibly it was not the menacing specter for which he had mistaken it, but rather the 'mystic brother' of Oriental traditions. Precisely what he meant by this phrase is not clear, but he could not have found a better one to account for his peculiar experiences.

"Gérard's normal self was tranquil and serene; opposed to vehement excitements of every kind, and a master of the pure, limpid style that led to his being called the French Sterne. It was to his second ego that must be attributed his eccentricities and mental aberrations—his 'mystic brother' it was who sent him wandering over Germany without money or baggage; who planted him at the street corners in Paris in ecstatic attitudes, and finally drove him to insanity and suicide. Nevertheless, but for this mysterious shadowy second self, we should lack the highest manifestations of his genius; he would not have felt two or three times in his life the veritable poetic frenzy; nor would he have written 'Sylvie,' one of the masterpieces of French prose. So much the worse for those who never become aware of their 'mystic brother'; it is safe to assume that they will not rank among the *élite* of mankind. Wo to those who become his slave."

As an author, Gérard was a sort of phantom, we are told, from the mere fact that so many of his works have disappeared. He would read his manuscripts to his friends, who were loud in admiration of their power and genius, then stuff them into his pockets, carry them hither and thither, and lose them. Some he never finished; others were written with collaborators, and it is impossible now to say what was his part in them. Only one of his surviving plays, in which he was assisted by Alexandre Dumas, bears the mark of his hand from beginning to end. This is a drama in five acts, "Leo Burckart," that was performed at the Porte Saint-Martin, in 1839, to fill a vacancy. Harel, the manager, said to Gérard: "I am expecting an elephant. Until

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it comes we will have your piece." Thanks to some delay in the arrival of the elephant, Nerval's "piece" had thirty representations.

His miscellaneous pieces, critical and imaginative, often anonymous, or signed by a *nom de plume*, soon became the prey of oblivion. Of those that he signed, the imaginative are by all odds the best; they reecho the dreams and fancies whispered to him by his "mystic brother" in their solitary promenades, and are exquisite. His novels are merely varying reflections of his own life; he had no power to project himself into other personalities. Most of his poetry is valueless. A few gems, and the short series called "Les Chimeres," written during or immediately after his insane attacks, alone give him the right to be classed among lyrical masters. Says M. Barine:

"I do not wish to be accused of identifying madness with genius, but facts are facts and dates dates. We know when and how often Gérard de Nerval was sequestered in *des maisons de santé*, and are compelled to acknowledge, however reluctantly, that his best verses were written when he was quite out of his mind, and that at no other time did he possess the gift of poetic expression. It was this consciousness, no doubt, that led him to inquire, on emerging from these attacks, with that fine literary sense that never abandoned him, whether he had not suffered a certain loss on recovering 'what is vulgarly known as reason.'"

Love played an important part in the life of Gérard de Nerval, as can readily be imagined; but like everything else about him his passion was fantastic and illusory. He sought with devout faith the *one beloved*, whom he named Aurelia; the divine feminine soul to whom he was persuaded that he had been united in former incarnations. At last he imagined that he had recognized his ideal in Mlle. Jenny Colon, an actress, and for years she became the object of his idolatry. But he was far too poetic to suit the unhappy *comedienne*, who persisted that she had never been either a vestal virgin or the Queen of Sheba in former existences. Worn out with being treated like a superior and almost a supernatural being, she finally quarreled with him, married another, and left Paris.

To Gérard this was a terrible blow, and his reason tottered; but this mental disturbance saved him at least from misery and despair. In the words of M. Barine:

"Dream overflowed and completely displaced reality; but his condition at first was a sort of radiant intoxication, a striking victory of spirit over matter. His malady had transformed him into a clairvoyant, his visions were all radiant and joyous, and he found such glowing language in which to describe them that his friends, listening amazed to these apocalyptic dreams, knew not whether he was to be pitied or envied. Can it be, they inquired, that what men call madness is a state in which the soul discerns relations and enjoys spectacles that escape the material eye? Some years before, another poet, Charles Lamb, had extolled the days that he passed in an asylum. To his friend Coleridge he wrote: 'Never believe, Coleridge, that you have enjoyed all the grandeur and exaltation of fantasy unless you have been mad. To me now everything else seems insipid in comparison.' It was the same with Gérard. When his frenzy passed—moods in which, according to his auditors, he poured forth what seemed rather the cosmic dreams of a god drunken with nectar than the ravings of delirium—he could scarcely endure its deprivation."

Before long his mental excitement began to show itself in his conduct. One day he appeared in the Palais Royal, dragging after him a lobster attached to a blue ribbon, and he was greatly incensed by the expostulations of his friends. Why should it be any more ridiculous, he argued, to be followed by a lobster than by a dog or cat, a gazelle or lion? For his part he had a predilection for lobster, a tranquil, serious animal that knew the secrets of the sea and did not bark or play tricks like dogs, that Goethe disliked, and yet Goethe was not a fool. Unconvinced, his friends placed him in the excellent asylum of De Esprit Blanche, at Montmartre.

The insane poet remained in this retreat for eight months, a period to him of rest and happiness. He received the most devoted care, and when spring came, in the large gardens that surrounded the house, abandoned himself to his second life of dream and vision, with a joyous and terrible intensity. All secrets of the universe were open to him. He was surrounded by spirits with whom he held ecstatic communion, in a way not to be described. They carried him to other worlds where beautiful maidens welcomed him with blissful smiles. Ravished, he saw among them the divine Aurelia. "It is true then," he cried, "we are immortal and retain on this petty globe a recollection of the glorious spheres which we once inhabited!" Occasionally he was disturbed by violent and frightful visions of the earth's early ages; but these lightning flashes of suffering were compensated by long hours and days of superhuman rapture.

In due time he was pronounced cured, and returned to the world. Soon after he went on a journey to the East in the hopes of completely reestablishing his health. Here he occupied himself with the early religions, of which he had already made a profound study, and absorbed eagerly all the cabalistic ideas and supernatural traditions in which the Orient is so rich. In Syria he studied the religion of the Druses, of which so little is known, and here met with a romantic adventure; for he imagined that he again recognized Aurelia incarnated now in Salema, the beautiful daughter of the Sheik. He demanded her hand in marriage, and finally gained the consent of the high priest; but before the wedding day arrived he had begun to doubt his intuition and freed himself from his engagement. We quote again:

"On his return to Paris he was more charming and more bizarre than ever. 'His appearance at this time,' according to one of his contemporaries, 'was striking and infinitely attractive. His expression was sweet and intellectual, his forehead seemed luminous, and, amid all his trials and distractions, he had never lost his grace and eloquence of manner.' But, also, in his dual personality the 'mystic brother' had now gained complete ascendency. The vivid flash of his gray eyes, his continual excitements and extravagances, showed too plainly that his relapse into madness was only a question of time."

His second sojourn in the asylum lasted only a month, and during that time he composed "Sylvie," his masterpiece. When incarcerated for the third time, his terrible malady had passed through the stage of glowing rapture, and became somber and terrible; the fruit of this attack was "Dream and Reality—Aurelia," the last effort of his expiring genius.

During the closing years of his life Gérard's eccentricities became more and more violent and alarming. But while his "mystic brother" was leading a life of folly and delirium, his other self, his normal ego, remained as peaceful and reasonable as ever, and never lost control in his own intellectual domain. This it is that renders his case so remarkable and so full of interest. In his relations with his friends and with the world, his judgment was as sound as ever. He has left quantities of letters on all sorts of subjects that give no hint of mental aberration; many of them are marvels of grace, tenderness, and touching emotion. Nor did his literary talent suffer any discrimination. His reviews and miscellaneous articles were never more abundant, and never more enjoyed by the public than during those critical periods when the follies that he was continually committing, and his restless wanderings through the streets of Paris, showed too plainly that one part of his brain was completely disorganized.

Restoring him to the world after his third incarceration was a mistake. It might well have been admitted at that time that his disease was incurable. His father had abandoned him, and his friends could not induce him to change his vagabond existence, or keep track of him in his vagaries. The winter was terribly severe. One morning at two or three o'clock, in a vile street, *la*

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vielle Lanterne, after wandering about all night, he knocked at the door of a wretched inn where lodging can be had for two sous. Afraid of the cold, the landlord would not get up to open the door; and in the morning the unfortunate poet was found dead. He had hung himself from the bar of the closed window. His biographer writes:

"His funeral was followed by a multitude dissolved in tears. It was a curious spectacle to see all the most distinguished men of Paris weeping like children, and refusing to be comforted, because they had not been able to save their good Gérard, whom all had loved. The thought that he had died in misery and poverty added to the poignancy of their regrets. Paul de Saint-Victor wrote: 'He died homesick for the invisible. Open, ye eternal gates, and give admittance to him who passed his earthly pilgrimage in languishing upon your threshold.' This may be true; but poor Gérard, if in his senses, would not have chosen to perish in *la vielle Lanterne*, so sadly and ignominiously; the manner of his death was due merely to the fact that he was mad."

In summing up, M. Barine refers to his preceding studies as follows:

"In Hoffman, Thomas de Quincey, and Edgar Poe, we have seen that brilliant literary gifts may be allied with profound deterioration of the intelligence. But the case of Gérard de Nerval is altogether different from theirs. By excesses in opium, wine, or alcohol, they themselves were instrumental in extinguishing their genius. Gérard was born with a defective organization predestined to madness, and to his affliction the development of his genius appears to have been due. He was only really a poet when, no longer having the control of his own faculties, he wrote under the dictation of his 'mystic brother.'"

A PERIL TO AMERICAN ART AND LITERATURE.

SEVERAL critical journals, notably *The Chap-Book*, have raised a protest against the advertising methods adopted by certain American publishers, the extensive use made of Charles Dudley Warner's photograph in advertising the literary cyclopedia of which he is editor being the particular cause of displeasure. In an article in *The Critic* (November 20) on "The Dignity of Letters," Gerald Stanley Lee finds in this subject the cause of profound apprehension. He expresses his view in the following words:

"It may be scarce worthy of comment, this particular use of personal prestige for business purposes, but the fact that it excites no comment, except under the breath, perhaps; the fact that we take it for granted, strikes at the existence of any great art or literature we can ever hope to claim. The assumption that everything has its price, that every reputation can be traded on, that every glory and beauty of the soul and every grace of the mind can be turned to commercial enterprise—if it once get possession of our national life will honeycomb every ideal and undermine every temple of beauty that we have. The wife of the President of the United States has been utilized to advertise a particular brand of tobacco. Our greatest preacher has been paraded across the nation in the name of a famous soap. The dead face of a martyred President looks out from a thousand bill-boards, to spread the fame of a kidney and liver cure. Adelina Patti belongs to something—we have forgotten what, and Calvé smiles malt extract around the world. Ex-President Harrison is employed by *The Ladies' Home Journal;* Gladstone is an advertising agency for books; and the Prime Minister of China, not to be outdone by civilization, has put the serene Mongolian seal of his Oriental face upon a pill. . . . To do our reading everywhere, to do our very thinking from day to day under the oligarchy of advertising that rules the world, to have the books we read determined for us by the subtle or furtive or flagrant advertising in the very news that is placed before our eyes—to know that many of our writers are the most insidious advertisers of all, to feel the advertiser's undertow in every conceit that greets us—to have our very nonsense for sale—to know that whichever way we turn, for pleasure or profit, or inspiration or knowledge or wisdom under the sun, there is some business interest at stake—this is to strike at the very soul of literature, at every latent possibility for creative or beautiful thought. Every idea we have shall break faith with us. Nothing shall be said for the love of the thing itself. Our very Bibles shall make men rich. The master-spirits of the human race shall be summoned from stately Greece and imperial Rome and the isles of the sea, to work the will of syndicates, advertising Homer with chromos, dealing in books like coal and wood. The soul of beauty shall depart from us. It can not be otherwise. It shall leave us bare and pitiful before the world, in the clatter of a garrulous printing-press, but with no literature of our own to read, alone with our great encyclopedias of the masters who are dead."

EARLY HOME-LIFE OF THE BEECHERS.

EIGHTEEN years after the arrival of the *Mayflower* (so Annie Fields tells us in her "Life and Letters of Harriet Beecher Stowe," just published) came John Beecher and his mother, in that company of rich and able men and women who "took shipping" under the leadership of the clergyman Davenport to found a colony in New England. Because Mrs. Beecher was "a good woman and useful to the company," they gave her land in New Haven, and there they built "the old Beecher house." This was the beginning of the breed of the Beechers in America—a breed hard-headed and aggressive, impatient of any stand-still; the men strong in spirit as in body, always readers and thinkers, and steady, bustling citizens—such stuff as went to the making of a Lyman Beecher, stanch Calvinist, tugging to bring Massachusetts back to the faith of the Puritans; the women good wives, mothers, and housekeepers, accomplished in all the household arts and crafts of their time, abounding in little handiworks of ingenuity, skill, and taste in needlework, embroidery, with variety of lace and cobweb stitch, wonderful pictures of birds and flowers—phenomenal pursuit of art and learning under the difficulties of eight children with inquiring minds and husbands restless and exacting. And yet we are told that when Dr. Beecher brought home his second wife—Harriet Porter, sister of the first governor of Maine—"never did stepmother make a prettier or greater impression"; her facility, gracefulness, amenity, and dignity were proverbial, in spite of the eight young Beechers with inquiring minds, and the irrepressible Dr. Lyman, of whom it might be said with formidable truth that one never knew what he would do next. But the Beecher women were not "nervous."

Dr. Lyman Beecher came naturally by his grit and his grip, and his choice variety of very trying gifts. His father was not a college-bred man or a preacher, only a farmer, blacksmith, and tool-maker, but he had a famous fund of intellectual curiosity, absent-mindedness, despondency, and fun. To quote from Mrs. Fields's book:

"'Your Aunt Esther,' says Dr. Beecher, 'has known him at least twelve times to come in from the barn and sit down on a coat-pocket full of eggs, and jump up and say, "Oh, wife!" "Why, my dear," she would reply, "I do wonder you can put eggs in your pocket after you have broken them so once." "Well," he would say, "I thought I should remember this time."'"

His wife died of consumption two days after the child Lyman was born—a seven-months child. When the nurse saw what a puny thing the babe was, and that the mother could not live, she just wrapped up the creature and laid it aside for future consideration. Another of the women in the intervals of business "thought she would look," says Dr. Beecher, "and see if I was living, and, finding I was, concluded to wash and dress me." And so the champion of New England Calvinism got his foothold in the world by the chance thought of a homespun angel who did not happen at the moment to have anything else to do. Here is a boyhood incident:

"'They say everybody knows about God naturally,' continued

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the old man [Lyman Beecher]. 'A lie. All such ideas are by teaching. One Sunday evening I was out playing. They kept Saturday evening, and children might play on Sunday evening as soon as they could see three stars. But I was so impatient I did not wait for that. Bill H. saw me and said:

"'"That's wicked; there ain't three stars."

"'"Don't care."

"'"God says you mustn't."

"'"Don't care."

"'"He'll punish you."

"'"Well, if He does, I'll tell Aunt Benton."

"'"Well, He's bigger than Aunt Benton, and He'll put you in the fire and burn you forever and ever."

"'That took hold. I understood what fire was and what forever was. What emotion I had thinking. No end! no end! It has been a sort of mainspring ever since.'"

But the wonder of it was the continuation of this eccentric identity in Harriet Beecher and her brother, Henry Ward, who, when a boy, being very angry, was wont to run behind the barn, draw a long breath, and say "Damn it!" on scientific principles, followed by a wholesome remorse.

We have a quaint picture of Roxana, Dr. Beecher's first wife, reading "Sir Charles Grandison" and Miss Burney's "Evelina" in the house at "Nutplains," and afterward discussing them in "the old spinning-mill." Roxana "vowed" she would never marry until she met a Grandison, and being a young woman of lively imagination, she presently discovered that superfine ideal in the person of Lyman Beecher, who, having caught a robber in his room one night, made the fellow lie on the floor at his bedside until morning, and then haled him before a magistrate.

In 1799, when he was twenty-four years old, Dr. Beecher married Roxana, and was settled at East Hampton, where one fourth of the whales stranded on the beach were reserved for the minister, as part of his salary.

When their mother died, the children were told that she was laid in the ground, and had gone to heaven, whereupon Henry Ward was presently found digging under his sister Catherine's window with zeal and a small spade. Catherine called to him to know what he was doing. "Why, I'm going to heaven to find ma," said he.

After the death of her mother, little Harriet was taken to visit her grandmother at Nutplains, where she and her small cousin Mary endured much catechism at the pious hands of "Aunt Harriet," a stanch churchwoman who seems to have found a certain Beecherian consistency in honoring the King and the Declaration of Independence at the same time.

The children read the Bible to their grandmother, who had a way of commenting upon the Apostles in the manner of an intimate and friendly acquaintance to whom frankness was quite allowable. She was smilingly indulgent toward the well-meant "freshness" of Peter: "There he is again, now; that's just like Peter. He's always so ready to put in."

As for "grandma," in her secret heart she was always a Tory. When some patriotic American roundly abused King George in her presence, she took the first opportunity to tell her grandchild that she did not believe the King was to blame; and then she opened her old English prayer-book and read in a trembling voice the prayers for the King and Queen and all the royal family, and told how it grieved her when they stopped reading them in the churches. She "supposed it was all right, but she couldn't bear to give it up," they might have some other way to settle it.

The earliest poetry that the little Harriet ever heard were the ballads of Sir Walter Scott; but for graver reading she turned to Rees's Cyclopedia, in which her Uncle George had read almost every article:

"In those days there were few books for children. Harriet used to go searching hungrily through barrels of old sermons and pamphlets stored in a corner of the garret, looking for something 'good to read.'

"It seemed to her there were thousands of the most unintelligible things. An appeal 'on the unlawfulness of a man marrying his wife's sister' turned up as she investigated, 'by twos, or threes, or dozens,' till her soul despaired of finding an end. At last her patient search was rewarded, for at the very bottom of a barrel of musty sermons she discovered an ancient volume of 'The Arabian Nights.' With this her fortune was made, for in these most fascinating of fairy tales the imaginative child discovered a well-spring of joy that was all her own.

"When things went astray with her, when her brothers started off on long excursions, refusing to take her with them, or in any other childish sorrow, she had only to curl herself up in some corner and sail forth on her bit of enchanted carpet into fairyland to forget all her griefs. . . . . .

"'But there was one of my father's books [said Harriet] that proved a mine of wealth to me. It was a happy hour when he brought home and set up in his bookcase Cotton Mather's "Magnalia," in a new edition of two volumes. What wonderful stories those! Stories, too, about my own country. Stories that made me feel the very ground I trod on to be consecrated by some special dealing of God's providence.'"

And then we read of the coming of the stepmother, "so fair, so delicate, so elegant, that we were almost afraid to go near her." She graceful, dainty, and neat; they rough, red-cheeked, hearty, and breezy.

When the "Waverley" novels appeared, novel-reading was regarded by many respectable people as more or less disreputable, if not positively diabolic. A novel was not to be found in the Beecher house, and the girls, slyly curious, were confronted in their lawless excursions in pursuit of literary game by such grim sentinels as Law's "Serious Call" and Toplady "On Predestination." But it was a comfort to get by heart Harmer on "Solomon's Song," "because it told about the same sort of things I had once read of in the 'Arabian Nights'; and there was the 'State of the Clergy during the French Revolution,' full of nice horrible stories." Then they dug through a side closet, "a weltering ocean of pamphlets," to find a delicious "Don Quixote," buried under Calls, Appeals, Sermons, Replies, and Rejoinders:

"Great was the light and joy, therefore, when father spoke *ex cathedra:* 'George, you may read Scott's novels. I have always disapproved of novels as trash, but in these is real genius and real culture, and you may read them.' And we did read them; for in one summer we went through 'Ivanhoe' seven times, and were both of us able to recite many of its scenes, from beginning to end, verbatim."

Dr. Beecher often wished he could have known Byron, and presented to his mind his verses of religious truth. He was sure that if Byron could only have talked with Taylor and Beecher, "it might have got him out of his troubles." He openly admired Napoleon, and used to say he was a glorious fellow; as for the Bourbons, they were "not a whit better, and imbecile to boot." When Napoleon was at St. Helena, the doctor was painfully exercised concerning the state of his soul.

In her thirteenth year the young Harriet was sent to her sister's school in Hartford. The school was over a harness store, and a nice young man worked there who had a lovely tenor voice. Harriet found a tender, fond delight in hearing him sing:

"When in cold oblivion's shade
Beauty, wealth, and power are laid,
When, around the sculptured shrine,
Moss shall cling and ivy twine,
Where immortal spirits reign,
There shall we all meet again."

Naturally, under such inspiration she made a metrical translation of Ovid, which was read at a school exhibition; also, she began a drama called "Cleon"—scene laid in the court of Nero. She filled "blank-book after blank-book" with this ambitious effusion, until her sister Catherine pounced down upon her, and set her to digging in Butler's "Analogy" and Baxter's "Saint's Rest."

Then she was converted, and had an awful time of it among her pious kinsfolk, who would not let her alone. Her sister

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Catherine feared there might be something wrong in the case of a lamb that had come into the fold without being chased all over the lot. "Harriet, do you feel that if the universe should be destroyed [awful pause!] you could be happy with God alone?" "Yes, sir."

Dr. Beecher could ask such questions as that, but it is difficult to imagine how he could have been happy without his ladder and his woodsaw, and somebody to tie his cravat:

"If he was to preach in the evening he was to be seen all day talking with whoever would talk, accessible to all, full of everybody's affairs, business, and burdens, till an hour or two before the time, when he would rush up into his study (which he always preferred should be the topmost room of the house), and, throwing off his coat, after a swing or two with the dumbbells to settle the balance of his muscles, he would sit down and dash ahead, making quantities of hieroglyphic notes on small stubbed bits of paper, about as big as the palm of his hand. The bells would begin to ring and still he would write. They would toll loud and long, and his wife would say, 'He will certainly be late, and then would be running up- and down-stairs of messengers to see that he was finished, till, just as the last stroke of the bell was dying away, he would emerge from the study with his coat very much awry, and come down the stairs like a hurricane, stand impatiently, protesting while female hands that ever lay in wait adjusted his cravat and settled his coat-collar, calling loudly the while for a pin to fasten together the stubbed little bits of paper aforesaid, which being duly dropped into the crown of his hat, and hooking wife or daughter like a satchel on his arm, away he would start on such a race through the streets as left neither brain nor breath till the church was gained. Then came the process of getting in through crowded aisles wedged up with heads, the bustle, and stir, and hush to look at him, as, with a matter-of-fact, business-like push, he elbowed his way through them and up the pulpit stairs."

As to that excellent and terrible sister Catharine, a distinguished theologian said to a German professor, concerning one of her pamphlets: "The ablest refutation of Edwards on 'The Will' that was ever written is the work of a woman, the daughter of Dr. Lyman Beecher." "God forgive Christopher Columbus for his discovering America," said the professor.

In their removal to Cincinnati the family found no relief to their perplexities and cares; every Beecher of them remained just as peculiar as ever.

During the long summer and autumn of her husband's absence, Mrs. Stowe lived at her father's home in Cincinnati, busy with writing for a local paper, of which her brother, Henry Ward, was temporary editor, as well as for other journals in New York and the West. And she kept a daily journal for her husband: "Wherein we see, as in a glass, the crumbling and upheaving, here and there, of the great earthquake of war for slavery, which was still to wait a quarter of a century for its awful development."

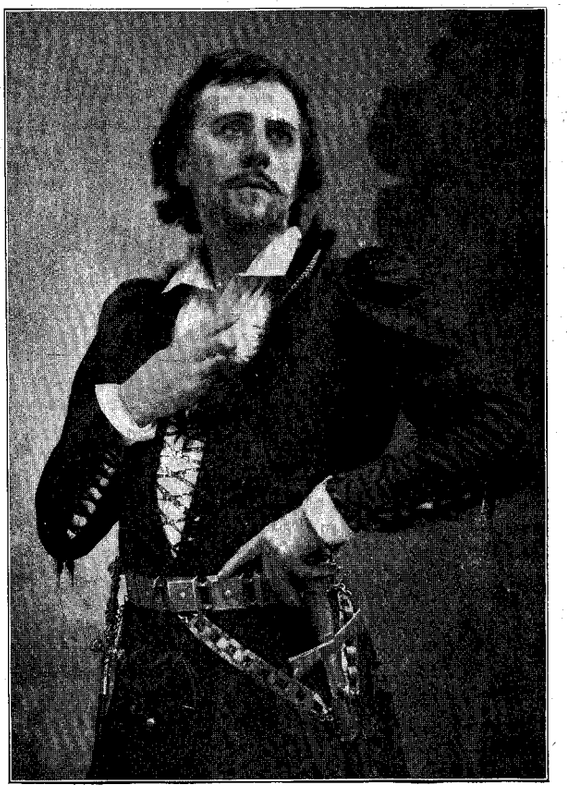
"Uncle Tom's Cabin" was published March 20, 1852. Ten thousand copies were sold in a few days; three hundred thousand within a year; and eight power-presses were strained day and night to keep pace with the demand for it. The story of its production, as told by Mrs. Field, has already been given in our columns.

THE STAGE AS AN ETHICAL FORCE.

SOME one once charged Henry Arthur Jones, the English dramatist, who, above all others at present, insists on the power which religion ought to wield in the drama, with ranking the ethical influence of the stage next to that of the church. He quietly replied: "Why put the stage second?" Mr. Beerbohm Tree, the actor and manager of Her Majesty's Theater in London, sympathizes to a considerable degree with Mr. Jones's view. He was recently interviewed by Percy Cross Standing for *The Humanitarian*, and expressed himself in part as follows:

"As an actor-manager of a dozen years' standing I can not, for instance, bring myself to favor the idea of a state-aided theater, however much, as an artist, I might approve it. Without wishing in the least to dogmatize, it seems to me that the stage can be made almost as great a power for good as the church itself. Was it not your Ibsen who once publicly said that he wanted to create an aristocracy of *thought* in which every man and woman might join? And I firmly believe that the mission of the theater is to contribute, by every means within the power of art, toward the creation of that ideal condition. . . . . .

"I know that there still exists a class who maintain through thick and thin, in and out of season, that the theater is a curse and not a blessing, an incentive to vice rather than to virtue. In such a matter I would prefer to go with Sir Edward Russell when he claims, on behalf of such an author for the stage as Ibsen, that



H. BEERBOHM TREE.

writings belonging to this vogue make the strongest possible appeal on behalf of prenuptial morality and its corollary. Sir Edward, I observe, goes even further than this, maintaining that within his knowledge young couples have been brought to a stronger and truer realization of their duties and responsibilities to each other, by the mere study of the truths sought to be inculcated by the Norwegian dramatist. For my own part, I would point with pride to the example of health and strength set by many of our English writers for the theater, from Addison and Congreve to Charles Reade and Boucicault, not to mention that greatest of all great intellects, Shakespeare."

WILLIAM M. CHASE, in a recent talk to his art class, as reported in *The Art Interchange*, disapproves of the idea that every artist must have a specialty. He says: "When a youngster I was oppressed by the feeling that I had no leaning toward any special line of painting. I saw other painters—all apparently with their specialty—one painting marines, another portraits, another cattle or sheep, and it worried me that there was no one thing that I felt called to do. It seemed to me as if something must be wrong. I am glad of it to-day. I pity the painter who has to wait for the time when he can go to the seashore and sit on the sand and paint his marines, and I pity the man who thinks about nothing but cattle, who dreams about cattle, and can think of nothing else. Most of them decided upon their specialty when they were too young and have consequently made a failure of it. I get the same sort of pleasure from my work when the mercury falls below zero as in the heat of summer. It is gratifying to think that the master whose work I admire above all others had no specialty—that he was equally interested in portraits, landscapes, cattle, still life, and everything else. Velasquez painted a cat, a dog, and a horse. The white-headed horse which hangs in the Madrid gallery was fine enough for him to have rested his reputation upon."

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

SOME EXPLANATIONS OF HYPNOTISM AND ALLIED PHENOMENA.

IN an interesting article in *Cosmos* (Paris, December 4) M. Albert Battandier brings together and compares the different current explanations of the class of phenomena that have hypnotism as their type. His article is primarily a review of a recent French work in which all these phenomena are explained on the old mesmeric hypothesis of a vital or animal "magnetism"; but its scientific value lies rather in the introduction, in which he makes the comparison of which we have just spoken, and from which we shall quote principally. Says M. Battandier:

"There now exists a series of facts that are consistent with each other, while they seem completely outside of what are called the laws of nature. Such is hypnosis, or provoked sleep, and everything which is related, directly or indirectly, to this class of phenomena. To deny these facts would be now impossible, so numerous are they, and so easily verifiable. They have also at their service a considerable literature, of which we have only to run over a publisher's catalog to get an idea. The fact being established, one's instinctive desire is to get at its cause, that is, to find the scientific theory of the fact—and here is where the reader's troubles begin.

"Fine theories distract scientific men, and each has its ardent defenders. . . . . .

"We find at the outset that the explanations can be divided into two distinct groups or families: the first can be called the 'Believers' Group,' the second the 'Scientists' Group.'

"The former is composed in the first place of those orthodox Catholics who, examining the question superficially, see only the work of the Devil. It is the Devil who effects the hypnotic sleep. He it is who produces the phenomena of 'exteriorization of sensibility'; he is the efficient cause of table-turning, telepathy, etc. In a word, there is but one explanation of all these facts—the act of a demon seeking to deceive us."

A somewhat similar explanation, we are told, is that of Sir William Crookes, who in well-known experiments has recorded movements produced without human contact, by what he calls 'psychic force.' This force is received by the mediums and transmitted by them to material objects. This explanation harmonizes with the preceding and, indeed, differs from it only in being less clear. We quote again:

"We come now to the scientific group. Here we find three hypotheses. The first connects all these facts to hypnotism and its results. It is well known that hypnotism may be produced by fixing the attention on a bright point ('Braidism'). Here is the starting-point of the theory of Charcot and the Salpétrière, which has become the 'Parisian School.' Owing to the nervous fatigue that this fixation of the attention produces, the subjects fall into a special state analogous to normal sleep, whose three phases are lethargy, catalepsy, and somnambulism. . . . . .

"The success of this explanation is due to the fact that it excludes all outside intervention whatever; it is particularly agreeable to certain persons who do not like to have their quiet disturbed, or their preconceived theories overthrown, and who prefer to see nothing rather than to see what might overturn their cherished hypotheses. Again, this explanation offers another advantage. Hypnosis being nothing but a vulgar malady, a morbid affection of the nervous system, the physician becomes its sole judge, which puts him in a privileged situation. Thus this theory, both by its own advantages and by the names of those who have advocated it, has had and yet has much success.

"The second is that of Bernheim of Nancy, and is based on the phenomena of suggestion. . . . We have seen that with Charcot hypnotism has three states; here these do not exist, or at least are only different degrees of an exclusively mental fact—namely, suggestion, which gives to an idea once formed an omnipotent influence over the nervous system. . . . M. Nizet, in summing up the principles of the Nancy School, says: 'It is suggestion, the action of the idea on the body, that determines all these phenomena; they are not of a pathologic, but of a psychologic character. Hypnotism exaggerates, in favor of a special psychic concentration, the suggestibility that we all possess in a certain degree. That is to say, the subject accomplishes passively, docilely, the acts suggested to him, because of an irresistible tendency to realize images formed in his mind.'

"There is a third hypothesis that may at least serve, together with the two preceding, to explain these phenomena. It is set forth by M. E. Gasc-Desfossés in a volume entitled 'Vital Magnetism: Recent Experiments followed by Scientific and Philosophic Inductions.' Here we at once leave the domain of facts to which we are accustomed. . . . . .

"What is vital magnetism? No clear definition exists. . . . We may say that it is a fluid possessed, in greater or less abundance, by every human organism that is capable of being directed by the sole action of the will and of then producing effects analogous to or greater than those of Braidism or suggestion."

The next question that arises regards the existence of this fluid, and we are told that the author of the book to which reference is made strongly believes in it. His proofs, which we will not detail here, depend largely on facts that have not been accepted as such by the scientific world at large, such as the movement of a galvanometer-needle by the act of the will alone, the action of a human body as a magnet, the phenomena of the so-called "odic force," first brought to notice by Dr. Reichenbach, and the whole series of phenomena known as telepathy or thought-transference. M. Battandier thinks that we may perhaps accept part of M. Desfossés's theory without giving up the others. He says:

"It is always rare to see a hypnotic effect produced by a single cause. These phenomena are susceptible, for the most part, of being produced indifferently by one or another of several distinct causes. Thus, it is rare to find a subject who is not a neurotic, and consequently a debilitated person—an invalid. It is rare to employ vital magnetism without bringing in suggestion, and *vice versa*. But without denying the influence of neuropathy or suggestion, and while recognizing the part that they play in the production of these facts, we need not be exclusive, and the proofs of vital magnetism are now numerous enough and solid enough to convince us of their reality."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

IS NEWTON'S LAW OF GRAVITATION EXACT?

THE law of gravitation as laid down by Sir Isaac Newton has been doubted or criticized from time to time, but usually on grounds that men of science have been unable to accept. While, therefore, students have always acknowledged that it is purely experimental and may not hold at all in regions of space to which our observations and measurements can not penetrate, they have held that we have no direct evidence that it is not, as its discoverer termed it, "universal." But now a German astronomer, Prof. H. Seeliger, of Munich, casts doubts on its exactness for reasons that admit of statement in exact mathematics and deserve a respectful hearing from all scientific men. Professor Seeliger's article, which appeared originally in the Proceedings of the Bavarian Academy, November, is translated in *Popular Astronomy*, January. His contention, briefly stated, is that if finite bodies are scattered uniformly over infinite space, then the quantity of matter that exists is infinite and the attraction of this infinite tho scattered mass should be, if Newton's law is true, much greater than it actually is. The law under fire is, as will be remembered, that every body in the universe attracts every other body with a force that varies directly as the mass and inversely as the square of the distance. That is, if the mass is doubled the attraction is doubled, but if the body is moved twice as far away the attraction is divided by four. Professor Seeliger himself expresses his idea as follows:

"About two years ago I drew attention to certain difficulties arising out of the attempt to extend Newton's law of gravitation

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to infinite space. The considerations then adduced showed the necessity of choosing between two hypotheses; viz.: 1. The sum-total of the masses of the universe is infinitely great, in which case Newton's law can not be regarded as a mathematically exact expression for the attractive forces in operation. 2. The Newtonian law is rigorously exact, in which case the infinite spaces of the universe can not be filled with matter of finite density. Inasmuch as I am wholly unable to find adequate reasons for the second of these assumptions, I have, in another place, decided in favor of the first. . . . . .

"The problem under treatment has some points of resemblance to another well-known question. Cheseaux and, after him, Olbers propounded the question as to why the average brightness of the celestial vault is so very small, whereas it should be comparable with solar brightness, if the number of luminous bodies in the universe be assumed as infinitely large."

It is of course impossible to quote here the purely mathematical demonstration given by Professor Seeliger. It follows the lines indicated above, and appears conclusive. It by no means follows, however, that all who accept it would necessarily agree with the author in his choice of alternatives. Many would doubtless prefer to consider space as limited, and Newton's law as holding with exactness in every part of it.

CURATIVE POWER OF SLEEP.

IN an article entitled "The Slumber Cure," contributed to *Health Culture*, New York, November, by Dr. Felix L. Oswald, the author asserts the sovereign efficacy of sleep in a great variety of complaints. He says:

"Brain-work succeeds best while the activity of the animal organism is reduced to an indispensable minimum. The mind is never clearer than early in the morning, when the work of digestion is finished; and for similar reasons digestion proceeds most prosperously while the brain is at rest. Mental distress almost paralyzes the bowels of sensitive individuals, and a business man of my acquaintance denies himself to all comers for the first three hours after dinner to lessen the risk of his dyspepsia being aggravated by unwelcome news. . . . The healing and soothing faculty of nature can work to best advantage while the meddlesome mind not only forbears interference, but ignores her proceedings altogether, and consents to undergo the temporary eclipse of slumber or of a deep fainting fit. 'We owe that victory to the snow-storms of the last week,' said General Traun, of the Austrian army; 'there was a messenger on the way with the usual budget of crazy instructions from the Kriegs-Hofrath (the chief war-office), but the snow stopped him, and being once left to ourselves we rushed in and routed the enemy.'

"Even thus the 'animal soul' avails itself of blest periods of non-interference, and it is a suggestive fact that in emergencies of mortal danger the healing All-mother begins her work by knocking the meddler silly in order to get her hands wholly free. An overdose of stimulants, a fearful fright, act like a blow on the head, and bring on fainting fits that often defy restoratives, but subside of their own accord as soon as the crisis has been weakened and the risk of interference has become less fatally serious. . . . . .

"Sleep, the twin brother of syncope, gives the mystic healing power a similar opportunity, and it is almost incredible how short an interval of 'conscious cerebration' may often suffice to effect a favorable decision in the crisis of an organic disorder.. Does the animal soul, like the healers of the Parsee sanctuaries, try to conceal its procedures, or shall we assume that the activity of the mind is so serious a drain upon the resources of the organism that it prevents the success of the briefest remedial ministrations? A correspondent of mine, who is subject to attacks of spasmodic asthma, often passes a whole afternoon on suburban trolley-cars, knowing from experience that the rocking motion and the sight of monotonous streets are apt to result in cat-naps, and that the shortest nap of that sort is sufficient to break the spell of the *dyspnœa*—the distressing difficulty to draw a full breath of life-air. . . . . .

"A mere cat-nap is also sufficient to relieve sick headaches, dizziness, spasms of colic and neuralgia; and protracted slumber—five or six hours of dreamless sleep—has saved more than one life that could not have been as much as respited by all the drugs mentioned in Bartholomew's 'Handbook of Therapeutics.' Chronic diarrhœa has been known to yield to that specific, and in many kinds of fevers, too, everything is gained if the patient can be helped to a few hours of deep slumber without the use of narcotics. Monotonous work, purposely continued to the verge of fatigue, may help to relieve insomnia, and in obstinate cases the application of warm winding sheets to the feet and of cool cataplasms to the head will promote the same purpose by alleviating the engorgement of the cerebral blood-vessels.

"Opiates only mock the patient with the appearance of relief, and, like brandy in the rôle of a dyspepsia cure, frequently result in an aggravation of the trouble. Laudanum paralyzes the digestive organs, and not only fails to reproduce the conditions of natural slumber, but goads the brain into fever-dreams, more permanently injurious than sleeplessness."

THE WARFARE BETWEEN MICROBES AND MAN.

WHEN microbes began to be written about, people were much afraid of them. But so many varieties and such an immense number of them have now been described, and the morbid manifestations attributed to these little beings have been so varied, that, in the opinion of Dr. H. Beauregard, an eminent physician of Paris, this fear has been succeeded in the public mind by indifference and even skepticism. It has been perceived, observes the doctor, that all have not died who were threatened, and the vast number of persons who get their ideas from the daily press reason that, if these microscopic creatures have the destructive power which is attributed to them, we have been their prey for a long time, and yet are we still alive. This consoling thought is sufficient to calm apprehensions.

Dr. Beauregard, therefore, in the *Revue Pedagogique* (Paris, October), discusses what should be our mental attitude toward microbes, in the form of three questions:

1. Do microbes deserve all the noise which has been made about them, and are they as dangerous and as universal as has been said?
2. How can we resist them?
3. How can we prevent their attacks on us from being fatal?

He says on these points:

"Microbes are entitled to their sad notoriety. They are everywhere, in the air that we breathe, in the water that we drink, in the food which we swallow for nourishment; dust contains innumerable quantities of them, our garments are covered with them, our hair affords an asylum for legions of these tiny creatures. It is idle to say that among the countless variety of microbes there are some good ones which are not harmful and do not engender maladies, for the most recent researches have demonstrated that there are some inoffensive microbes which can become very dangerous if they can manage to traverse several times in succession the animal organism. That is the truth. What is true, moreover, is that it has been proved beyond contradiction that microbes cause the most terrible maladies, those which decimate populations, like phthisis, the plague, cholera, typhoid fever, typhus, yellow fever, scarlatina, to mention only the best-known and most murderous diseases.

"When the part played by microbes began to be recognized, it was asked how organized form, of dimensions so small that it requires great enlargements of the microscope (enlargements of a thousand and fifteen hundred diameters) to distinguish their morphological characteristics, can get the better of individuals of a height which, in comparison with the attacking force, is enormous. This question was answered by pointing out the incalculable number of the microbes and by recalling that the human body is but a considerable collection of microscopic elements, the cells, so that what was at first thought to be a war between a pigmy and a giant, is, in fact, one between individuals of about the same size. By reason also of the extremely rapid multiplication of microbes they soon find themselves sufficiently numerous

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to win the battle. This point of view has not lost its value, but to-day we know something more. It is not only and especially in the place where they are present that microbes exercise a melancholy influence over the organisms they invade. The principal cause of their harmfulness is in the products of their life in the midst of the tissues. These products, excreted by the microbes, are, in truth, energetic poisons which, physically or chemically, provoke reactions in their surroundings and which can cause profound alterations in the organ. It is not essentially necessary for the microbes to invade the entire organism and multiply there with rapidity in order that the poisonous manifestations due to their excretions shall be felt. Thus it is that the microbe of diphtheria, often localized on the tonsils and throat, produces in the organism grave disorders in the veins, the joints, and other parts, far away from the place where the microbe is encamped. There is, in a word, poisoning at a distance, which proves sufficiently the preponderating part played by the poisons excreted by the microbes. This fact, of course, does not weaken the effect of their number, since it is very evident that the more abundant the producers of poisons are the greater the quantity of poison which will be produced.

"All this being so, let us see how it comes about that we are able to resist the attacks of so many enemies, apart, that is, from all medical treatment. It is my duty, alongside of the very discouraging picture I have just sketched, without exaggerating anything, to place, with the same care to keep within the absolute limits of truth, a more comforting picture, pointing out the means with which we are naturally provided to repel invasion.

"Suppose a legion of microbes which, coming from the outside, attacks us. Some fasten on the skin, others penetrate by the mouth or the nose. Before reaching us, they have already encountered conditions which put them, in a certain measure, in a state of inferiority. The oxygen of the air and light are agents which injure the vitality of the microbes. From this fact results the elementary principle of hygiene to keep the apartments in which we live well aired, and to admit into them floods of light. Having reached the skin, microbes find an efficacious barrier in the cells of the epidermis, of which those directly on the outside are horny and thus in the best condition for not being traversed easily, and are, moreover, in a continual state of desquamation or scaling off. This may be called the physical defense of the epidermis. That is not all. The skin contains glands, producing sweat and oily matter. These matters are eminently unfavorable for keeping up life in microbes. If some of them, however, availing themselves of the openings of these glands, get within and think that they have overcome the obstacles which prevent them from reaching the internal tissues which are the object of their travels, they are mistaken, for so soon as the glands work a little actively, in consequence of labor-provoking perspiration or the active secretion of the oily matter, the microbes, borne on this current of secretion, find themselves promptly turned out of doors. Hence the efficaciousness, from an hygienic point of view, of care of the skin, of active perspiration, and the like.

"Returning now to the microbes which have entered the open cavities, the mouth and nostrils (I do not speak of the ears, which can defend themselves by their epidermis and the secretion of wax), there also the surfaces are clothed with a membrane formed of little cells not unlike the cells of the epidermis of the skin, and this membrane is constantly moistened with liquids (nasal mucus, saliva) which are not at all favorable to the development of the assailant. If he, continuing his march, manages to get into the œsophagus and so reach the stomach, he finds there conditions which are not good for his health, in the shape of gastric secretions, such as chlorhydric, lactic, and other acids. This is so true that many microbes are absolutely incapable of getting through the stomach and penetrating the intestines, for they have been so battered and knocked about and their vitality has been so much lowered by their troubles on the road, that they end by being destroyed and even digested in the stomach.

"It has been proved, however, that mucous surfaces are not always an obstacle to the penetration of the microbes, even when these surfaces are intact. Supposing the microbes manage to penetrate the tissues, there they meet with new obstacles; there they find, in the first place, what are called phagocytes, that is, cells which are eaters, or elements of the lymph, which show surprising activity, swallowing the microbes and digesting them. It should be remarked that these phagocytes are most abundant at threatened points. If, in spite of phagocytes, the microbes get into the blood, they have not won the battle. The serum of the blood has microbe-killing properties; the oxygen that is carried into the blood disagrees with many of the microbes, as carbonic acid does with others, and thus it is that the blood is rarely invaded by microbes in the course of the maladies they engender. Driven then from vessels which do not offer them a satisfactory field of culture, they can only take up their residence in the heart of the organs, and even there they meet with elements of resistance which are often efficacious, such as defensive proteins and other antitoxic substances produced by these organs.

"To sum up, the human body is perfectly organized to resist the different phases of the attack of the microbes. This explains how it is that, in spite of their multitude and their bad temper, microbes have not yet annihilated the human race.

"It must be kept in mind, nevertheless, that the success of the resistance depends upon the quality of the tissue into which the vigilant and ill-tempered microbe strives to penetrate. I have told how things go on when the organism is healthy. If, however, before the microbe reaches the haven where he would be, the general functions of the system are troubled, either hereditarily or by reason of an acquired abnormal state, such as gout, diabetes, visceral, pulmonary, or hepatic inflammations (to speak of a few states only), the conditions of resistance are changed, for these, by vitiating the regular functions of the organs, affect the vitality of the tissues and particularly the phagocytic elements. The microbes are destroyed in much smaller quantities, and they no longer find antitoxic products which ought normally to oppose their development and neutralize the effects of their own poisons. In a word, they find a field of culture in which they can not fail to flourish and multiply.

"The consequences are immediate and fatal. The infection of the tissues begins; the poisons produced by the microbes are spread through the organism. Such is the mechanism of the origin of diseases called infectious.

"From all this it is plain that everything which enfeebles our vitality is a dangerous condition and exposes us to invasion. For that, it is not necessary that there be deep injuries, affecting this or that organ. The most varied influences can come in play to create in us a state of inferiority, which will oblige us to surrender to our foe. Privations, great fatigue, the ingestion into the system of toxic substances, intoxication by lead or alcohol, atmospheric conditions, excessive heat, intense cold, are so many elements which must be reckoned with.

"There is no warrant, then, for neglecting microbes and considering them as an enemy of slight importance. It would be folly to think that we may fold our arms, and trust to our natural powers of resistance. On the contrary, we should always keep in mind that we have in microbes terrible adversaries, always on the alert to surprise us, and against which we are bound to maintain as intact as possible the national defenses with which our organism can oppose them."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

HORNET'S STING AN ANTIDOTE FOR SNAKE BITE.

M. PHISALIX, the French authority on the venoms of insects and reptiles, has established beyond a doubt that the poison of the hornet in sufficient quantity renders one immune to that of the viper. This interesting and unexpected fact, and the manner in which it was established, are set forth in the following note, which we translate from the *Revue Scientifique* (Paris, December 18):

"The poison of the hymenoptera has been studied by various observers, among others by Paul Bert. According to him and to M. Cloez, the poison of the carpenter-bee owes its activity to the presence of an organic base in union with an unknown fixed acid. According to M. Langer, in the venom of the bee there is found a small quantity of formic acid, but the toxic substance is an alkaloid that resists heat and cold as well as the action of acids.

"But altho there is thus disagreement on the subject of the chemical composition of this poison, it is not the same with its physiologic action. P. Bert, having caused the carpenter-bee to sting sparrows, saw them die from stoppage of respiration, in complete paralysis; and recently M. Langer has killed rabbits

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and dogs by inoculating them with bee-poison, their symptoms being similar to those of poisoning by the bite of the viper.

"Now, in experiments whose results we are about to describe, M. Phisalix has investigated the relation of the poison of the hornet to that of the viper, and he first tried to see whether the former did not possess immunizing qualities against the latter. The results fully confirmed his expectations.

"The poison extracted from the stings of fifteen hornets, injected into the leg of a guinea-pig, caused a lowering of temperature by 4°, which lasted thirty-six hours. At the point of inoculation were produced redness and swelling which finally reached the abdomen and ended in mortification of the skin. In a similar experiment, where the same dose of poison was heated to 80° for twenty minutes, there was no general injury and the local action was confined to a slight temporary swelling.

"Likewise the inoculation of a glycerinated maceration of hornets caused only slight local troubles. But the organism of the animals that received this poison underwent such modifications that they became able to resist a subsequent inoculation with viper's poison.

"This resistance is such that a guinea-pig thus immunized can support, without the least danger, a dose of viper's poison capable of killing him ordinarily in four to five hours. The duration of this immunity varies from five to eleven days. Thus the poison of the hornet possesses a slight antitoxic action against that of the viper; while, when inoculated at the same time as the latter, it retards death considerably.

"M. Phisalix, who has investigated the nature of the substance which in the complex mixture that he employed effects the immunization against the viper's venom, finds that this substance is not destroyed by heating to 120°, that it is in part retained by a filter, that it is soluble in alcohol, and that it is neither an albuminoid substance nor an alkaloid.

"In fine, a full acquaintance with the nature of this substance will necessitate further research."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE PREVENTION OR ABATEMENT OF SMOKE.

THE recent failure of the attempt to show manufacturers that they are wasting fuel by not consuming their smoke does not seem to have dampened the ardor of those who are trying to abate the smoke-nuisance. Discussing the efforts of these reformers, *Cassier's Magazine* says editorially:

"The simple theory in the whole matter of smoke always has been that the best way to prevent it is not to make it, and it is along this line that intelligent inventive effort has, of late years, been expended. The fireman, too, as a smoke-preventer or a smoke-making nuisance, has attracted attention, and the importance of his function is to-day tolerably well appreciated by most boiler-owners. But, after all, there are in every manufacturing district furnaces which owners will not provide, except under compulsion, with possibly expensive smoke-preventing equipment, in the shape of mechanical stokers, for example, however economical in final results, and to these the simple smoke-washer, or absorber, did they but know of it, would be an acceptable means of helping to suppress the objectionable chimney discharges."

A good type of such an apparatus, the invention of Colonel Dulier, has recently been installed at South Kensington Museum (London). To quote again:

"With this apparatus the products of combustion, before being permitted to enter the chimney, are taken up one leg of an inverted U-shaped flue, made of galvanized sheet iron, being assisted in their upward course by a steam jet. The latter assists also in the condensation of the tarry hydrocarbon products and saturates the dust with water vapor. In descending the second leg of the flue, the products of combustion are brought in contact with a large number of upwardly inclined water sprays which are intended to thoroughly wash the smoke, moistening all the particles of dust. The smoke and water next pass through a chamber containing a helical passage in which they are made to still further commingle, and after all this the gases are allowed to pass into the chimney proper, while the now sulfurous wash-water is drained off. The draft in the flue and chimney, measured with a water gage, is said to have shown no diminution after the direction of the apparatus. . . . Tests with a similar equipment at Glasgow showed in one case a reduction of the soot in the gases from 73½ grains per 100 cubic feet before treatment to 2 grains after treatment; and in a second case, from 23.3 to 1.5 grains."

A Comparison of Tires and of Pavements.—Some French experiments on resistance to traction with various tires and on various pavements—a subject of growing interest now that the horseless carriage has come among us—are described by M. Hospitalier in a paper presented to the Société des Electriciens. The trials were carried on, as we learn from *Electricity*, by M. Fonvieille under the supervision of M. Michelin with a view to comparing the coefficients of traction of vehicles fitted with iron, solid rubber, and pneumatic tires on various kinds of pavements and at different speeds. The figures below give the tractive force in pounds per ton and the speed in miles per hour:

1st. Boulevard de la Seine—Macadam in good condition, hard, dry, and dusty:

	Speed, per hour, miles.	Tractive Force in Lbs. per Ton. Iron.	Solid rubber.	Pneumatic.
Wind from ahead	7.2	59.97	54.01	49.16
" " behind	7.2	55.78	50.26	45.86
" " ahead	12.05	75.84	65.92	54.67
" " behind	12.05	60.85	55.56	52.47

2d. Same boulevard—Macadam in good condition, hard but slightly muddy:

6.7	60.42	58.43	52.92
12.2	87.98	78.50	70.12

3d. Same boulevard—Macadam in good condition, but very wet:

12.8	100.55	93.93	77.18

Trials on other boulevards developed much the same results, showing the pneumatic tire to be never less than 10 per cent. better than the iron tire, and at times as high as 30 to 35 per cent. better over bad pavements.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

THE dissection of cats and dogs is recommended as a legitimate school exercise for young children by Prof. Burt G. Wilder, in *Science*, December 17. He says: "Children are spontaneously interested in natural objects. Like the terror of dogs, the squeamishness that would induce reluctance to handle a 'specimen' is commonly an artificial condition induced by the ignorant or thoughtless interference of parents or teachers. Left to itself the healthy child sucks in knowledge through its finger-tips. . . . If it be legitimate to slaughter animals for food, it is even more so to kill them humanely (as with chloroform) in order to gain information. This is particularly true of the superfluous cats and dogs that lead miserable lives in most cities. Children should be taught that the greatest kindness toward such is a speedy and painless death."

IN proof of his assertion that the children of a drunken father suffer for his sins, Dr. Anthony, writing in the *Centralblatt für Gynäkologie*, October 16, tells of a healthy woman who was married at the age of seventeen to a notorious drunkard, and who had by him, in her nine years of married life, five miserable little children, of whom four died within the first ten days after birth. "The fifth one, by great care, was raised to the fourth year, when it also died. After this the woman was separated from her husband. She then married a healthy man, and had by him two children. The elder grew to be four years old, and the younger, at the time of writing, was fourteen days old. Both were in perfect health. This great contrast between the children of different fathers plainly shows . . . that the alcoholism of the father of the first children destroyed their vitality."

A METHOD of determining moisture in soils by measurements of their electrical resistance is described by Milton Whitney, chief of the Division of Soils of the Department of Agriculture, in his annual report to the secretary. As quoted by *The Western Electrician*, Mr. Whitney says: "Sixteen stations have been equipped with electrical instruments in various parts of the country, and in several important types of soil. Records have been kept at these stations for periods varying from two to four months, and it has been found that the method can be used by any one with ordinary care. As a result of these field records I feel perfectly satisfied with the operations of the method, and equally satisfied that it will prove of great value in soil investigations, as well as of practical and commercial value. One great value of the method is that the electrodes are permanently buried in the field at any depth desired, and the field can be cultivated or cropped as usual. The electrical resistance between the electrodes is read from a scale, and this resistance varies according to the square of the water contents. By once thoroughly standardizing the electrodes and by the use of tables furnished by the division, the moisture contents of the soil can be determined at any time from the electrical resistance of the soil."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

THE THEOLOGY OF DR. WATSON.

IN view of the call extended by a Presbyterian church at Kensington, England, to Rev. Dr. John Watson ("Ian Maclaren")—a call which has been declined—*The Christian Leader* (Scotch Presbyterian, Glasgow) gives editorial expression to its opinion of the theology of the gentleman under consideration, and of the action of the church in inviting him to its pulpit. The editorial is interesting as it shows how this popular preacher and story-writer is regarded by some of his own denomination in his own country, for *The Christian Leader* is one of the leading religious papers in Scotland and speaks for a large constituency. It says that the "country generally" will be astonished that "in the face of the opinions with which Dr. Watson has made the whole world acquainted, a majority could be found in a loyal Presbyterian congregation who could deliberately make a selection of the kind and further resolve to proceed with it in the face of protest."

It raises the question whether the Kensington church is ignorant of Dr. Watson's views, or whether it has desired him that it may have a popular attraction in its pulpit. Dr. Watson's preaching is declared to be in direct conflict with "the foundation truths of the Christian faith." He is an open advocate, it is said, of the "new theology," with all that it implies. *The Leader* then proceeds to propound these questions to the Presbyterians of Kensington:

"Are they ready to condemn Dr. Watson's predecessors as preachers of error? Have they decided to reject the Standards of their church as libeling God and man, and as proclaiming for Gospel that in which there lies no salvation? Have they determined for themselves and their children to make 'the great refusal,' and to despise the Word of God and the doctrines that have been its power for eighteen centuries? But to resolve upon the abandonment of the old theories, and the substitution of the new, under the leadership of 'Ian Maclaren' or any other, is to make this very resolve and this very refusal."

To substantiate its view of Dr. Watson and his theology, *The Leader* refers to the book "The Mind of the Master," and says:

"Let us ask them whether they have marked that the whole aim of that book is to show that the mind of the Master is entirely different from the mind of their own church in regard to the way of salvation! It is to set aside 'the old' conception of Christ's propitiatory sacrifice for sin and to substitute 'the new' notion that no such sacrifice was ever made or intended. The purpose of Christ, Dr. Watson tells us, was to kill selfishness in us, and His death was the last and highest enforcement of the *teaching* by which selfishness is to be slain. 'According to Jesus,' he says, 'the selfish man was lost; the unselfish was saved, and so He was ever impressing on His disciples that they must not strive, but serve. He Himself had come to serve, and He declared that His sacrifice of Himself would be the redemption of the world. This is Jesus's explanation of the virtue of His death. . . . Jesus proposed to ransom the race, not by paying a price to the devil or to God, but by loosening the grip of sin on the heart and reinforcing the will' (pp. 103, 104).

"No man would have written these last words who had any belief in the substitutionary aspect of Christ's death. It may be added that no man could have penned them who ever knew the doctrine or felt the pathos of the prophetic words: 'We have turned every one to his own way, and the Lord hath laid upon Him the iniquity of us all.' It is quite in keeping with this that Dr. Watson should see in the parable of the Prodigal Son only these four things: 'He plays the fool in the far country—this is the fulfilling of his bent. He is sent out to feed swine—this is the punishment of sin. He awakes to a bitter contrast—this is repentance. He returns to obedience—this is salvation" (p. 102).

Where is the place for the father's mercy, the robing with unmerited splendor, the restoration not only to a son's place but to the place of one brought back from the dead? It was *that* which killed the old and established the new in this man's life. It was *that* which made him a son in spirit and in truth who had hitherto been only a son in name. But how is it that this supreme touch in the picture has nothing answering to it, and is entirely unnoticed, in Dr. Watson's scheme of the way of salvation? Is 'Ian Maclaren's' mind, on this great and eternally momentous matter, 'The Mind of the Master'?

"The suggestion is unfortunately inadmissible that we have misunderstood Dr. Watson's book. He denies that there is in the Gospels any doctrine of the Cross. We, in common it seems with Paul and Peter and the rest of the Apostles, have misunderstood matters, and so Dr. Watson parts with us and cleaves to the Gospels. 'The Gospels,' he says, 'do not represent the Cross as a judicial transaction between Jesus and God, on which he throws not the slightest light, but as a new force which Jesus has introduced into life, and which He prophesies will be its redemption. The Cross may be made into a doctrine; it was prepared by Jesus as a discipline' (p. 120).

"This is not the place for any proof of the scripturalness or of the verity of the doctrine of the Atonement. It is enough for our present purpose that the congregation of Kensington Presbyterian church should realize plainly that in placing Dr. Watson in the pulpit they thrust out from it the one great saving truth of the Bible. It is scarcely the exchange which we think them capable of making. And they will not be reattracted by the substitutes which he puts in the place of the Cross of Jesus. They will hardly vote for the preaching of purgatory; but if not they ought to suspend all action till they have inquired of Dr. Watson what he means by 'the cleansing fires of Gehenna' (p. 267), and by this other statement that 'the object of punishment' is not 'retribution but regeneration' (p. 269). We shall only remind them that for them 'The Mind of the Master' is everything. To be satisfied as to what Christ wants them to do at the present juncture, and to do it as manfully as their fathers did when they counted not their lives dear to them, is the one great duty to which God now calls them. Their fathers' chance came yesterday; theirs comes today."

THE DARK SIDE OF GREAT REVIVALS.

WITH the opening of the year comes the week of prayer, which in many denominations is made the beginning of protracted revival efforts. *The Interior* (Chicago, Presbyterian) comes to hand with some editorial reflections entitled "Revivals *Pro* and *Con*," but we find the reflections to be chiefly "*con*." It refers to the laments uttered from time to time for the disappearance of the days of great revivals, such as took place under Finney and Knapp, and then gives the following reasons for failing to join in these lamentings:

"We are not so youthful but that we remember the fervid exhortations, the tumultuous cries, the physical prostrations, the exuberant shouts which marked those scenes. Personally we do not care to look upon them again. They were not biblical, they were not necessary, they were not defensible. Many in recalling the 'old-fashioned' conversions forget more than they remember, and time has softened many a ragged edge and jagged point. Even during the prevalence of these revivals the discreet mourned their excesses, and it was because they could not be freed from their excesses that the church by a strong public sentiment repressed them. Any one will be benefited spiritually by reading the biography of Charles G. Finney, or by studying his volume on revivals, but the statistical history of these periods is darkened by shadows. From city to city the excitement swept with increasing momentum, and in 1832 more than 34,000 were added to the Presbyterian Church upon confession. In the next four years over 53,000 were received upon profession of faith, besides all that came in from other denominations by letter; and yet the total number of communicants had increased but about 2,000. It should not be inferred that all the products of these revivals were so evanescent. The church was approaching the disruption of '37, and doubtless the causes which sent the total of communicants down in '38 to the point occupied in '32 were already at work retarding advance; but even making all possible allowances for outside and unusual disturbances, it is evident that the 'old-fashioned conversion' was not always a genuine work of grace.

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It was showy and grateful to the spiritual emotions, but it did not result in such permanent gains to the church as our more quiet methods. Our older brethren lament the absence of revival tides to-day, and yet during the last four years the Presbyterian Church (North) has increased in its total communicants 11 per cent. At the close of the four years' revival excitement (ending 1836) the same church had added 25 per cent., and yet only increased 1 per cent. No such terrible reactions have followed the labors of Mr. Moody or Dr. Chapman, or their colleagues. We have, to be sure, in other denominations some of the old order of revivalists left, but they seldom affect our church. We know one church in a suburban neighborhood which has in a single revival season received more members than the entire membership of the Presbyterian church near it. And to-day the Presbyterian church in that place is three times stronger than it was twenty years ago, while its rival is weaker than ever. These are facts which careful observers know and which all ought to realize."

WHAT LIBERAL CATHOLICS WANT.

THE "Old-Catholic" revolt in Europe has become "so powerless as to be beneath contempt." A great calm seems to have spread over the sea whereon rides the bark of Peter—a calm due in large measure to the present gentle, cultured, conciliatory and relatively liberal pontiff. Nevertheless, some men deemed exceptionally clearsighted agree that there are breakers ahead.

These are the opening thoughts in an article signed "Romanus," in *The Contemporary Review* (December), in which the writer endeavors to point out what the breakers are and how to avoid them. He writes from the standpoint of a Liberal Catholic, and is very emphatic in asserting that, despite the apparent calm, the "Liberal Catholicism" of former days has ceased to exist only because it has been transformed, by the advances of science, into a much more formidable and radical movement. In the brooding discontent of these Liberal Catholics are to be found the breakers referred to. The causes for this discontent lie, we are told, in the relations of the church to physical science and biblical criticism. The position occupied by these Liberals toward the Catholic Church itself is thus outlined:

"'Liberal Catholics' are not ignorant of what the essential constitution of the church has come to be. They fully appreciate that process of centralization which has gone on, more or less continuously, since the second century, developing a spiritual kingdom—a monarchy like none other that the world has seen. 'Liberal Catholics' are well aware that the church's enormous power for good would be fatally impaired by injury to its organization, and regard any attempt to reverse the process of development as an act intrinsically absurd and unscientific. Their desire, therefore, is to strengthen, not to destroy, authority. They desire especially to strengthen it by diverting it from proceedings detrimental to its own welfare. Nothing is more distressing to them than to see authority degrade itself, now through the disastrous influence of this or that eminent personality, and now through that of some powerful religious order. They mourn over the results of such influences in the south of Europe, and over that general estrangement from Christianity which is so widespread among educated men in the so-called Catholic countries. They are profoundly convinced that the Catholic Church is the one great influence for promoting the spiritual welfare of humanity. They believe that there exists no power comparable to it for the promotion of virtue and of all that is highest, noblest, purest, and most self-denying and generous among mankind. They are convinced that it is the most complete—the only complete—organization for bringing about among all classes, all nations, and all races, obedience to and fulfilment of Christ's two great commandments wherein lay all the law and the prophets—namely, love of God and of our neighbor."

They admire, also, the church's forms of worship as "traditional, majestic, soul-satisfying, and, above all, profoundly spiritual"; its sacraments as elevating, comforting, strengthening; its spirit as one of charity and willing self-sacrifice; its influence as making for beauty and the culture of art, and its philosophical influence as of priceless value. But the church has had to undergo great changes in the past, to keep in touch with the advances made in human knowledge and thought, and it must keep itself in an attitude wherein such changes may be possible in the future. "Romanus" says:

"No reasonable person can suppose that any men of the Apostolic age used the language of later times in their teaching about the nature of Christ, or even understood the doctrine of the Trinity as expressed in the Athanasian Creed. Neither could they have spoken, or even thought, about Transsubstantiation, any more than it is credible that devotion to Our Lady had a place in the religion of St. Paul. Do these facts constitute valid arguments against such things? By no means. They only show that the church, like everything which possesses healthy life, has undergone, and will have to undergo, a continuous process of development. Such being the case, it would be calamitous indeed if she should ever continue to be imbued with, and to give forth, the spirit of an age which is forever dead and gone, when the world has entered upon a new period, the mind of which has become alien from such earlier sentiments and beliefs. To keep itself in touch with what is best and highest in each succeeding lustrum is, in the opinion of 'Liberal Catholics,' an *articulus stantis vel cadentis ecclesiæ*. And there can be no question that the intellectual progress of mankind involves a wider and surer grasp of truth. Every man of common sense must know that it is to the advance of scientific knowledge we owe all that has improved the material conditions of life; that has brought better food and clothing within the reach of multitudes; that averts sickness, heals the diseased, and produces unconsciousness of pain. How can it be expected that men will ever endure with patience, on the part of ecclesiastics, an attitude of opposition to that science to which all, even those ecclesiastics themselves, are so deeply indebted?"

But Liberal Catholics are not blind to the fact that such a vast and complex structure as the Catholic Church must move slowly. They recognize the need of a certain amount of reticence and a scrupulous care in dealing with novel truths that affect religion:

"But what it [Liberal Catholicism] does *not* understand, what it vehemently protests against and deems fatal to the church's well-being, is not reticence, but declarations hostile to and condemnatory of ascertained scientific truth. It bitterly regrets the loss by the church of opportunities, and again and again allowed to slip by, of welcoming such truths and so making them her own, instead of driving them into a hostile camp. 'Liberal Catholicism' blames and regrets, not scrupulous care, but unscrupulous carelessness in dissociating the church from scientific progress and identifying it with stupid, ignorant obscurantism. This regret has just now been plainly, if somewhat timidly, displayed at the Congress at Fribourg. May it bear good fruit!

"Much, indeed, remains to be done—a very Augean stable of theological filth and rubbish to clear away! For altho the most *arriéré* ecclesiastic would not regard it as blameworthy to believe that the earth annually revolves round the sun, there are many who would make difficulties in allowing a few hundreds of thousands of years as possible for the duration of man's past existence. No one in authority would, probably, now venture to affirm, in so many words, that Catholics must regard as historical facts such matters as the legend of the serpent and the tree, that of the formation of Eve, Noah's Ark, the destruction of Sodom, the transformation of Lot's wife, the talking ass, or Jonah and his whale; nevertheless (not only from what is popularly taught, but from what has been put forth in the name of the Supreme Pontiff), it would seem as if Reuss, Welhausen, and Keunen had never written at all, instead of having transformed our whole conception of the Hexateuch!"

No expectation, however, is indulged that the past decrees of the church on such subjects can be retracted. The dexterity of theologians, however, is amply sufficient to explain away obnoxious dicta and effete dogmata without the need of formal disavowals. But there should be no new and needless declarations hostile to scientific and historical revelations. Such needless declarations were the well-known Syllabus of Pope Pius IX.; the recent encyclical of the present Pontiff on the Bible, broadly de-

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claring that the Bible contains no error; and the recent course in regard to the Index:

"The old Index was never supposed to be binding on English Catholics, and, indeed, its provisions were such that it was practically almost a dead letter on the Continent also. It was intended that the Vatican Council should reform it, but for such matters there was no time. It has now, quite recently, been withdrawn, and a less unreasonable law substituted for it. At the same time, however, the new Index was formally declared to be applicable to all countries. Much to the annoyance of the English Catholic bishops, its text was published in English in *The Tablet* and *Weekly Register*. Great was the distress which arose in a multitude of worthy, but timid and scrupulous, minds from this publication, and great was the trouble brought upon the bishops by shoals of letters begging for guidance and advice. Very quickly the bishops began to instruct their clergy to be quite silent about the Index whenever possible, and, when too much pressed about it, to give the most indulgent replies to those who would not go unanswered. This, however, was not enough. Pressure was brought to bear upon Rome, which was forced at last to learn something of the condition of affairs in England, and finally supreme authority has had to draw in its horns and suffer it to be spread about in England that the new reformed Index does not apply here, and that in this happy country every condemned publication can be read, and any work on morals or religion published and circulated, without ecclesiastics having power to prevent it."

A still more monstrous act, the writer thinks, is the reply from Rome to the effect that the text in the Epistle of St. John about "the three witnesses" ("there is not a single competent scholar in Europe or America who does not know that the text in question forms no part of the Epistle, but has been subsequently inserted") may not be called in question.

The rest of the article is an exposition of the changes that have been effected in the Catholic Church in past centuries. The early teaching about the speedy approach of Christ's kingdom on earth has been by degrees entirely dropped. How different are our modern conceptions and sentiments with respect to the Supreme Being from those of St. Augustine, St. Thomas, or even St. Alphonsus Liguori! The declaration "*extra ecclesiam nulla salus*" (no salvation outside the church) has been practically abrogated by interpreting "the church" to mean the soul, not the body, of the church. The monstrous command, "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live," has been quietly modified in practise. The ascetic practises of modern religious orders are very different from those of the Carthusians and Cistercians. And, the writer concludes, "the increasingly rapid advance of knowledge warns us that such accommodations will be even more needed in the future than they have been in the past."

MRS. BOOTH'S WORK SUSPENDED.

THE work which Mrs. Ballington Booth, of the Volunteers of America, has been ardently prosecuting among the inmates of jails and penitentiaries has been brought to a close for an indefinite length of time by her serious sickness. The bulletin issued December 27, by the physicians of the Presbyterian Hospital who have her case in hand, was as follows:

"Mrs. Ballington Booth is suffering from an aneurism of the aorta (disease of the heart), and we consider that her condition has been and is serious. She is confined to bed, not allowed to see any visitors except her husband and her secretary, and is absolutely forbidden to do any work. Rest and treatment have made some improvement in her condition, and she is still improving."

The relations between Mrs. Booth and the Salvation Army, of which she and her husband were until a short time ago the leaders in this country, have given credence to the report that her breakdown is due to attacks made upon her, by letter and in other ways, by her former associates. An alleged interview with Commander Booth-Tucker was published in Chicago, December 30, in which Mrs. Booth was accused of shamming illness to create sympathy for herself and for the Volunteers. Altho the Commander promptly denied making any such charge, the interview has been the subject of some very vigorous editorial comments in the daily press. *The Sun* (New York) goes to the length of comparing Booth-Tucker to the actor Radcliffe, who was recently sentenced to the penitentiary for beating his wife, and advises him to "go back where he came from."

In regard to Mrs. Booth's character and work *The Congregationalist* has this to say:

"Whatever her fate, it will always be true that in her Americans have seen one of the finest reincarnations of the Christ spirit ever vouchsafed to them. As an orator there are few, if any, among women who equal her in beauty of diction, depth of feeling, and power to play on all the strings of the human heart. As a laborer in the vineyard she has endured contumely and become the friend of criminals and harlots if thereby she might lead them to Christ. To-day from the cells of many a prison there are prayers rising to heaven that her life may be spared, and if perchance she is soon to die her most genuine mourners will be people at the poles of society—the idle, wealthy society women whom she has taught to live for others as well as themselves, and the prisoners in our penitentiaries and prisons whom she has loved into the kingdom by the contagion of her disinterested love for them and her simple exposition of the Gospel of Christ."

The Christian Advocate (New York, Meth. Episc.) makes reference to the reported cause of her sickness:

"It is said that members of the Volunteers are talking against the Salvation Army, and declaring that she is dying of a broken heart; and it is said that some of the members of the Salvation Army are talking against the Volunteers. If either of these statements is true, the persons who are talking are operating in an army whose commander it would not be polite to name. They are in the wrong place where they are now. Mrs. Booth is greatly beloved, and her recovery is hoped for by all Christian people. That the circumstances of the last few years have been trying to her there can be no doubt, but whether they have had any direct relation to the very peculiar attack which she now has no human being can state."

The Voice (New York, undenom.) says:

"The report concerning Mrs. Ballington Booth is incredibly distressing. She is lying critically ill in a hospital in this city, and it is stated that her illness is due to the anguish inflicted upon her by the abuse she has received since leaving the Salvation Army. She has been assailed as the cause of her husband's defection, and of the division between him and his father and the rest of the family. She received a short time ago a letter from her elder sister, saying, so it is said, 'I shall never soil ink again by using it in writing to you.' She has even been assailed by letter-writers as a woman of no character, and her husband has been urged to leave her! All this while she has been striving to do God's work among the outcast in the jails and penitentiaries, and, so far as the world has any knowledge on the subject, refraining from abuse of anybody. The leaders of the Salvation

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Army in this country, Mr. and Mrs. Booth-Tucker, seem to have been entirely guiltless of any harsh treatment; but their course has not, apparently, been followed as closely as it should have been. Is it not an awful commentary on the weaknesses of human nature that a woman like Mrs. Booth, whose whole life has been devoted to the rescue of the needy, who has every charm of person, of mind, and of soul, should be the recipient of such abuse as to have almost, if not quite, broken her heart? And, strangest fact of all, it is very probable that those who have abused her have been as assured that they were doing God's work as she was herself, and have been, we do not doubt, thoroughly sincere even in their abuse. It is simply another evidence of the strange cruelties that have been practised in the supposed service of One who was never cruel even to those who spat in His face and buffeted Him and hung Him upon a cross."

BAPTISTS AND BAPTIST CONGRESSES.

AMONG the Baptist papers continuing the discussion of the questions raised at the Baptist Congress in Chicago (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, December 18 and 25), there is an apparent disposition to insist more and more strongly on the statement that the views expressed by Drs. Gifford and Conwell at that time on the subject of communion are in no degree representative of the views held by the vast majority of Baptists at the present time. It is insisted also that there is no such tendency toward open communion in the Baptist denomination as is now alleged by many of the pedobaptists on evidence adduced by the Chicago Congress.

The Journal and Messenger (Baptist, Cincinnati) refers to the discussion in these words:

"Our numerous pedobaptist contemporaries which have snatched the little scrimmage at Chicago as a club with which to beat at the head of Baptists seem to be particularly taken with the argument forged by Dr. Gifford, as tho it were also, beyond a peradventure, the best and most effective possible for the demolition of the Baptist door which shuts out the non-baptized from the Lord's Supper. The language of Dr. Gifford, as reported, was as follows: 'We are told in the Acts that after immersion the members of the early church continued stedfastly in the Apostles' doctrine and fellowship and prayers. If immersion is a prerequisite to one, it is a prerequisite to all. The essence of the Lord's Supper is the "discernment of the Lord's body." The Corinthian Christians, failing in this, failed to observe the Supper. If such discernment is granted to any body of unimmersed men and women, if such men and women develop the fruit of the Spirit, evidently they observe the Lord's Supper.' Now, it is quite certain that the idea of the Supper, whatever its essence may be, is not met by simply the discernment of the Lord's body. It is freely admitted that every fit participant in the Supper should be able to discern the Lord's body in the elements with which it is celebrated; but that is not all of it. Which of all the Christian denominations believes or holds that such ability to discern is all that is required? Which of all the periodicals which are quoting Dr. Gifford on this point is willing to accept the view thus presented as its view, and stand to it? Which of all the denominations is willing to spread the table of the Lord in the street, or in a public hall, and say to the wayfarer, 'Let every one who thinks that he can discern the Lord's body help himself and get "the essence" of the Lord's Supper'? We know of no such denomination, and we know of no paper that advocates such a practise. But, until they do, they ought not to swing Dr. Gifford's sentences as a club over the heads of Baptists."

The Watchman (Baptist, Boston) finds a text in the controversy for an editorial discussion of the question whether such gatherings as that at Chicago, where so much freedom of discussion is accorded, ought to be recognized or encouraged by the denomination at large. *The Watchman*, however, is not in favor of any restriction. It thinks that such congresses, with all the latitude accorded them in debate, are a good thing for the denomination. It says:

"The truth is that the meetings of the congress have simply furnished an arena for discussion. Such an arena is provided in part by the denominational press; tho we are sorry to say that some editors are far too stringent in ruling out of their columns articles with which they do not personally agree. But it is a great advantage for men of different temper, who have reached different conclusions, to meet face to face, and, in the free give-and-take of animated discussion, have their opinions weighed and sifted. As often as not, in the course of these debates, the advanced men have been brought to confront difficulties of which they had not taken proper account, and their conclusions have been modified thereby.

"The question, then, comes back to this: Is the public discussion of the matters that are uppermost in the thought and work of the denomination a good thing? If each party has a fair representation in the discussion, the reply must be an unequivocal affirmative. It is not possible for a Baptist, who believes that religious convictions should be reached by the free action of the intelligent personality, and in no case imposed from without by external authority, to take any other position. Baptists believe in free discussion. They do not wish to hold doctrines that can not be rigorously defended. They have no room for a debate conducted on the principle of the Roman Catholic Congress, which submits in advance all its papers and discussions to the archbishop, but they give the amplest welcome, within reasonable limits, to the untrammeled and reverent discussion of religious questions."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

IN Hawaii, it is stated, there are 23,273 Protestants, 26,863 Catholics, 4,868 Mormons (polygamy is forbidden), 44,806 of Eastern creeds, and 20,192 who declined to state their faith or possessed none.

THE English Wesleyans are discussing a great connectional proposal for the new century. Mr. R. W. Perks has outlined a scheme to raise a million guineas by January 1, 1901, as a special fund for aggressive Methodism.

THE Old Catholic bishops of Holland, Germany, and Switzerland, at a meeting in Bonn, November 9 last, decided to give episcopal consecration to the Rev. Anton Stanislaus Kozlowski, an Old Catholic bishop for the United States.

"A CHRISTIAN lady of culture, a minister's daughter and a minister's wife, wrote hundreds of letters seeking information as to the religious standing of religiously reared people who were led into skepticism, and she learned that eighty-five per cent. of them eventually returned to the true faith, which," says *Zion's Herald*, "is not only a very encouraging, but a very significant fact."

ACCORDING to *The Watchman* (Baptist, Boston), the plan of using "chapel-cars" in the mission work of that denomination was a happy thought successfully carried out. In the five years since these cars were instituted they have traveled 75,000 miles, 6,000 meetings have been held, a great amount of denominational literature has been circulated, about sixty Baptist churches have been started, and fifty meeting-houses secured.

THE New York correspondent of *The Episcopal Recorder* says that the American Bible Society, which has aided the St. Petersburg Society for the Propagation of the Holy Scriptures in Russia, has received a special report, expressing its high appreciation of the generous help which the American society has accorded during the last sixteen years. This help has enabled the Russian Bible Society to extend considerably its sphere of action.

THE London *Inquirer* prints a letter from the venerable Dr. James Martineau in answer to an invitation to be present at the dedication of a church in Northampton, in which he said: "If you dedicate your place of meeting to a questioned variety of human beliefs instead of to an unquestioned realization of filial life unto God, you will supersede the affections which unite you by the disputations which break up churches and multiply creeds."

IN a recent issue of *The Northwestern Christian Advocate*, an article from Rev. C. M. Cobern, a secretary of the Egyptian and Palestine exploration fund, gives the first account of a recent find in Egypt. At the same time when the much-discussed "Sayings of our Lord" was found at Oxyrhynchus, there was found a page of the Gospel of Matthew, which has not yet been given to the public. The chief librarian of the British Museum gives it as his opinion that the writing belongs to about 150 A.D. Professor Petrie adds the information that it corresponds exactly with our copy of Matthew.

AT a recent meeting of the Presbyterian synod of Montana, the question of entering new fields was discussed, and the following resolution adopted: "Never to enter a field in which any evangelical branch of the church of Christ is already supplying the religious needs of the people until, after a careful investigation, there is reason to believe that there is both a demand and a need for our work." In an editorial comment on this resolution, *The Methodist Protestant* says: "If every denomination decided in the same way we would see no wasted talent nor misused missionary money in all the land. There would not be two churches where one can not be adequately supported. There would be no overlapping of territory, nor heartless competition in building up religious clubs, which we, more or less innocently, call churches."

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

GERMANY'S FAR EASTERN POLICY.

THE time is past when one nation could say, 'I'll take the earth'; and another, 'I'll rule the sea'; and the Germans were satisfied to earn heaven." This remark, uttered by the new German Minister of Foreign Affairs, v. Bülow, during some recent debates on the navy bill, is the key to the extraordinary importance attached by Germans of all ranks to the departure of a squadron, under Prince Henry of Prussia, for service in the far East. Emperor William went in person to Kiel to see his brother off. He addressed his brother in a lengthy speech upon the occasion, from which we quote the following passages:

"The task which you are sent to fulfil is the logical consequence of what our grandfather and his great Chancellor began, and what our father won with the sword. It is nothing more than the first result of the remarkable dimensions assumed by the commercial interests of the newly created German Empire. I simply have to follow the new German Hansa and give it the protection to which it is entitled from the empire and the Kaiser. Our religious brothers have placed themselves under my protection; we must give it to them. Your duties will be those of defense rather than attack. German merchants and ships must have their rights guaranteed by our flag; we must not be behind other nations in this. . . . It shall be your duty to remain on terms of friendship with your comrades of the fleets of other nations, while yet you defend German interests with a firm hand. Make it known to every European out there, to the German merchant, and, above all, to the foreigner on whose soil we land, that 'Dutch Mike'* has planted his palladium with a firm hand, and will grant protection to all who ask him. . . . If it does happen that any one undertakes to infringe our just rights, then use your mailed fist."

Prince Henry replied:

"Since the somewhat thorny crown of the empire came to your majesty I have tried to assist you, to the best of my limited ability, as a man, a soldier, and a citizen. . . . Your majesty has made a great sacrifice by entrusting this command to me. . . . I understand your feelings as a brother and thank you for the honor conferred upon me. . . . Fame and laurels have no attraction for me; only one thing has: to make known abroad the gospel promulgated by your majesty's inviolable person; to tell it to every one who is willing to accept it, and also to those who are not."

There can be no doubt that the Germans no longer think Schiller's advice to live as a kind of Levites among the nations of the earth good advice. They are determined to strike out for themselves, difficult as the task has become. From all parts of the world voluntary contributions are sent by Germans for the increase of the German fleet, and during the Christmas holidays collections were made for this purpose even by the pupils of the schools. The English press, however, still predict a rising of the oppressed German people against their autocratic ruler. Thus *The Saturday Review*, London, says:

"When the German Emperor dismissed Bismarck and so conducted himself that he brought about the alliance between France and Russia, while alienating the sympathies of Great Britain, we called him 'William the Witless.' And the nickname seems to have stuck; but it is inadequate, for the man is mad—stark, staring mad. . . . The Germans are a patient and disciplined people. As long as their ruler was merely witless they bore with him in silence; but now that he seems bent upon turning the elephant into the rival of the whale they are beginning to speak out. . . . The German Emperor has not only managed to get the newspapers and the professors against him, but also the sturdiest supporters of his throne, the Prussian nobility. From the time of his accession William has treated every one who differed from him in opinion as a personal enemy. He has insulted the greatest nobles as soon as they have ventured to disagree with him in any phase of his extraordinary activity, and consequently his court is now deserted. It is known, indeed, throughout Germany as the court of the parvenus. In spite of all these ominous facts, the poor creature continues to take himself seriously as a sort of drill-sergeant Providence."

The same sentiment is echoed in the colonies, at least in Canada. *Saturday Night*, Toronto, remarks that "the modern Nero, who draws if he does not write poems, seems to have got to the stage where he broods over the fact that he never saw a great city on fire." In Germany and in other European countries such utterances are attributed to English jealousy of Germany as a future colonial power and industrial competitor. "For heaven's sake, let them howl," says the Berlin *Neuesten Nachrichten*; "it seems to relieve their feelings, and it doesn't hurt us." The *Independance Belge*, Brussels, says:

"We must pay due regard to one symptom. This German expedition to China is the first act of a grand and tedious struggle between England and Germany for the rule of the sea and the supremacy of the world. We have seen its beginning; we will probably not live to see its end. The emphasis of the Emperor in all his speeches indicates clearly enough the magnitude of his projects. . . . It would be childish to think that the whole thing is only intended to obtain the passage of the naval bill. Germany has obtained all she can get in Europe, and exercises her expansive energies elsewhere."

The *Journal des Débats*, Paris, says:

"It is not likely that a difference of opinion exists among the powers that worked for the revision of the Shimonoseki treaty: Russia has received her reward in Manchuria, France in the provinces near Tonking, Germany alone had remained unrecompensed. . . . Nobody could expect that so ambitious a power as Germany, whose trade holds second place in China, would stand aside when the possibility of the partitioning looms up. . . . French interests have nothing to fear."

The papers all over the world are full of sensational speculations upon the supposed speedy partitioning of China. Remarks in the Russian press charge that England, rather than Russia or Germany, is in undue haste for Chinese territory. The *Mirowiya Otgoloski*, St. Petersburg, expresses itself to the following effect:

English appetite for the territory of others astonishes the world by its magnitude and the suddenness with which it appears. The English already talk of a partitioning of China, reserving, of course, the most toothsome morsel for themselves—just because Germany has occupied a small territory, about 480 kilometers square. . . . England knows moderation only in her concessions to others. Already her nationals in the far East agitate for the annexation of the Yang-tse-kiang Valley, that is, the entire south of China, as they interpret it, about 1,870,000 kilometers square She could then, with the help of cheap Chinese labor and Chinese resources, crush all industrial competition in the world. Luckily she has not got further than to open her capacious maw for the fat titbit, and it shall be the business of the Continental powers to keep her from it.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

TEMPERANCE OF THE DUTCH.

THERE is probably no subject of greater interest to the social economist than the drink question, and on no problem is opinion more divided. Nor is it possible to form an accurate conception of the needs of one country by the experience of another. Among ourselves many earnest men are convinced that total abstinence is absolutely necessary for the Americans as a nation. On the other hand, the Dutch, who bore an evil reputation for drunkenness in former generations, seem to have become very moderate in their habits. The Dutch Minister of War, in his report upon the sale of liquor, declares that a few sensible restrictions only are needed, that the use of intoxicants is decreasing in Holland, at least so far as the army is concerned, and that there is a corresponding increase in the consumption of tea and coffee. The consumption of beer he does not regard as suffi-

* *Der deutsche Michel*, allegorical figure representing Germany as "Uncle Sam" represents the United States.—*Editor* of THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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ciently great to increase drunkenness, but then the beer in Holland is not very alcoholic. We quote the following from his report on observations taken in the camp at Reijen, as given in the *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam:

"There were three military canteens, where beer, coffee, milk, and spirits could be purchased. Strong drink was sold between 8 and 9 P.M.; also one hour before dinner to non-commissioned officers, and three quarters of an hour before dinner to privates. The commanders, considering good beer a better beverage than gin, made special arrangements with the contractor as regards quality. This was done not only with a view to the men, but also to the women attached to cantonments, washerwomen, etc. In the camp at Reijen, where special investigations were made, beer was preferred to such an extent that only one out of nine persons took a drink of gin, on an average, per day. The men were not allowed to leave camp; it was therefore possible to make reliable calculations. During eleven days 133 liters of strong drink were consumed by 2,108 rank and file. Beer was consumed to the extent of ¼ liter per head per day (little more than half a pint). There was not a single case of drunkenness, altho the sale of beer was not restricted."

The officers attach much value to a good supply of pure water for drinking. The Minister believes that, in view of the above facts, the inherent temperance of the Dutch people should be trusted, their moderation should be encouraged by sensible restrictions, but total prohibition of the sale of strong drink is not to be recommended, as it does not produce as good effects as moderate restriction.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

CONDITION OF BRAZIL.

TO prevent further ill effects upon its much-shaken credit, the Brazilian Government exercises strict censorship over all telegrams in which the world is informed with regard to the late attempt upon President Moraes's life. Gradually, however, the mails bring light. It appears that Brazil has entered upon the career of the other South American countries, in which military dictatorship never ends, tho one clique pushes out another in rapid succession. The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, Berlin, sketches the situation to the following effect:

Since November, 1889, when Pedro II., the bourgeois emperor, as he was nicknamed, renounced the throne without a struggle, there has never been peace between the civilian and military parties. The military men have nearly always been in power. Prudente Moraes is the first president who is not a soldier, and his position is not at all strong. He was, however, ably seconded by his Minister of War, Marshal Bittencourt, who was willing to reduce the army, and endeavored to introduce proper discipline, and who inquired into the doings of the officers and army contractors during the Canudos rebellion. On March 1 will take place the next Brazilian election. With President Moraes out of the way, the Vice-President, General Peixoto, who belongs to the Jacobin or military party, would have a free hand. Hence the attack upon Moraes's life, during which the assassin soldier, foiled in his attempt, wounded the President's nephew and stabbed Marshal Bittencourt to death. The "Civilian" party now hopes to hold its own, but it is forced to drive out the devil with the help of King Beelzebub, for it has to rely upon the provincial troops (the police of Rio Janeiro, which are organized in a military manner) and the navy to oust the federal troops.

The *Temps*, Paris, says:

"The Jacobins had made up their mind to rid themselves of Bittencourt as early as April last, for he was unceasing in his efforts to create order in the army and to stop needless expense. It was he who forced General Oscar and his assistants to end the war against Conselheiro, which had cost the country over 25,000,000 milreis, officers and contractors combining to make money out of it."

What the military dictatorship really means to Brazil may be gathered from an account in the *Journal do Comercio*, Rio de Janeiro, from which we take the following:

"Brazil has not had a foreign war since the republican form of government was established; but her naval and military budgets have increased enormously. For 1890 the navy estimates were 8,800,000 milreis, with a total of 11,427 officers, officials, and men. For 1897 the estimates had risen to 23,100,000 milreis for 14,286 persons. The army was 22,843 strong in 1890 and cost 12,500,000 milreis. It cost 47,100,000 in 1897 for 32,570 men. Yet every officer, official, and soldier was really to be found during the empire. To-day many of the officials, carried on the lists with double the former pay, and many of the officers, whose pay is four to five times as high, do not serve at all, or only three or four months a year, and the rank and file are largely on paper."

These accounts of the condition of Brazil have called forth a large number of comments upon the republican form of government as carried on in South America. *The Post*, Kingston, Jamaica, thinks Brazil furnishes an object-lesson much more than the Spanish-American republics, which have always been restless. The paper proceeds as follows:

"Of Brazil, history tells another tale: a tale of unbroken peace and prosperity shattered at one fell blow by the ruthless hand of —republicanism. . . . And the deplorable spectacle naturally brings to the front the problem: How to reconcile republicanism in South and Central America with peaceful progress? It has been solved in North America, indeed; but it can scarcely be said to have been solved anywhere else—even in France as yet. And certainly the countries of Latin America are far from its solution. . . . The Spanish colonies broke away from the mother country in a universal revolutionary outburst, they adopted republicanism, and have been more or less in political turmoil ever since. But Brazil became an empire with the free-will of Portugal, and a Braganza ruled it wisely and well. Under the Pedros it became one of the most peaceful, prosperous, and cultured countries in the world. As Clement Markham (we think) says of it, it possessed the unique distinction of being a country 'without a history'—using the word in its strictly political application, of course—in contradistinction to its neighbors. . . . Dom Pedro preserved perfect peace among a quiet and orderly people with an army and navy so small as not to be worth mentioning. Some ardent and ambitious generals bethought them to make a change, and it was effected. The emperor was quietly dethroned and expelled, and a republican government organized. Not a shot was fired, scarcely an angry word was uttered, and 'all the world wondered'—wondered at so much being achieved with so little waste of energy. . . . But whether it be the people of Brazil or the system of republicanism that was at fault, certain it is that from the day the rule 'of the people, by the people, for the people' was inaugurated, those erstwhile peaceful, contented, and happy 'people' have had what the Americans call 'a bad time of it.' Their new Government certainly has proved a dismal, a disastrous and a costly failure. Ambitions have encountered ambitions; revolutions have led to and followed revolutions. Universal distrust has dethroned confidence, and the people do not know where they are."

The same opinion is expressed everywhere throughout the British Empire and in Europe. The only exception we could discover is a trade paper published in London, *The South American Journal*, which says:

"It goes without saying that the assailants of Brazilian credit have not been remiss in making capital of these untoward happenings to assist them in their crusade for the spoliation of the holders of Brazilian securities, which have in consequence depreciated; and others have been equally prompt to draw unfavorable comparisons between Brazil under the rule of the late Dom Pedro II. and Brazil under its democratic institutions. It is a pity that violent and unscrupulous politicians, by their conduct, should thus have done so much to bring republicanism, as a form of government, into question, if not into absolute contempt."

This continued restlessness of Brazil has caused the rumor that Germany, France, and Italy may combine to protect their nationals in Brazil.

The *Tägliche Rundschau*, Berlin, speaks of a possible secession of the Southern provinces, where most of the German emigrants have settled. These emigrants complain that they are no

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longer protected in their peaceful occupations since the republic has been established, and they clamor for help in the German papers.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE BRITISH LAND DEFENSES.

GERMANY wants a navy. She has plenty of men to man it, but finds it difficult to convince her bourgeoisie that they must open the purse-strings for the building of ships. England wants an army. Her bourgeoisie are willing to pay, and to pay handsomely for it, but they will not don uniforms and fight themselves. Consequently the army is not much respected, and it is difficult to find the men. The German Government, in order to gain its point, has cut down its demands to the lowest figure. A similar proceeding has taken place in England. It remains to be seen whether either Government will get what it asks for. Lord Lansdowne, the British Minister of War, in describing the immediate needs of England for land defenses, expressed himself in the main as follows:

England needs: 1. Three army corps to beat off an enemy immediately upon his landing on the coast. 2. Two army corps in complete readiness for transportation abroad, to defeat enemies of Great Britain on territory outside the British Empire. 3. Sufficient troops on hand to send small detachments without mobilization of the army. 4. Enough men to keep the garrisons in India and other British possessions up to their standard strength. The Government will endeavor to provide these troops without abandoning voluntary service, assisted, perhaps, by some militia system; for the Government is fully convinced that the British people are radically opposed to a system which compels every man to serve, except in the case of attacks upon the British Isles. To provide an efficient reserve men should be engaged for a term of three years, with the choice of remaining in the army or going into the reserve at the expiration of their term. The reserves will be liable to serve in wars which do not necessitate the mobilization of the whole army, such as colonial wars.

In *The St. James's Gazette* David Hannay asserts that the British public must give up the idea that their empire is insular. We quote as follows:

"In Africa we have extensive frontiers, and are busy in adding to them. The difficulty there would be of the minor order, since none of our possible opponents have at once great power and their communications wholly by land. Yet even there the work would not be so easy if the Boer thought fit, as seeing us in trouble he well might, to draw the sword of the Lord and of Gideon. In America the gravity of the case is undeniable. We can shut our eyes to it, of course, and go on talking about 'crimes against humanity' and the 'unity of the Anglo-Saxon race.' There are people, and many of them, whose minds seem to be just shaped to hold a sentimental phrase and to be incapable of taking in anything else. But there are the facts, that we have had a violent quarrel with the United States within the last two years—arising, by the way, out of a dispute on a minor American frontier; that there is a party in the States as well disposed to fight us as any Anglophobe in France; that a great deal of cold dislike of the 'British Government' exists in America; and that we have a frontier there stretching from ocean to ocean which we are as much bound to defend as we are to guard the Isle of Wight. Moreover, the navy could no more defend it than stop the transit of Venus. The Canadians are on our side, and the States are ill-prepared for war. It would be a year before they were able to send anything deserving to be called an army forward. We should be able to be on the field in time—the navy seeing to the transport; but, of course, on the condition that we had the forces to send. And it is not two army corps that would do the work—not perhaps even the five of which Lord Lansdowne spoke the other day. . . . If the whole British navy were in the Baltic and the Persian Gulf, it could not delay a Russian army marching by Herat on Cabul for twenty-four minutes. When Russia has a quarrel with us her course is easy. She has only to treat the Ameer as our vassal, for which she has good excuse, to call on him to revolt over to her, or to fight and stand the consequence. If he consents, there goes the buffer State like a ghost at cock-crow; and who knows how much of our prestige with it? . . . The moral would seem to be that we would do well to modify our view of ourselves as an insular power. That we have had no choice but to do as we have done; that we have been wise in the circumstances; or that we have been foolishly ambitious, are good texts for debate, but of no practical importance."

The Friend of India also points out that an increase of the army is absolutely necessary, and its demands are extremely moderate. Ten thousand men more than at present, the paper thinks, would make an appreciable difference. It further maintains that the British people must defend every inch of ground they have annexed in the interest of civilization, and says:

"National annexation necessitates increased national insurance, if only for the active malevolence it provokes among foreign powers. The facts, we think, make out a strong case for the addition of ten thousand men, or more, to the effective strength of the army. The nation at large has at length accepted the position that the navy is our first line of defense, and has hectored the Admiralty into something like working order . . . . The nation, having now got a navy worth its cost, may well set about getting value for the money it spends on the army. Roughy speaking, we pay yearly about the same sum—twenty millions sterling—for each branch of the fighting services. For this sum we get the best and strongest navy in the world; the smallest and not the best-equipped army of the great powers. Clearly, then, now that the Admiralty has shaken off the effete traditions of a century of sloth, the next step should be to arouse the War Office from its lethargy. . . . But the first line of defense is incomplete without an adequate army in the second. Coaling-stations, docks, and arsenals, and all the other adjuncts on land of fleets in home or foreign waters have to be garrisoned and defended."

On the Continent these proposed armaments are looked upon as half measures. The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, a paper which, as mouthpiece of a people not engaged in the race for empire ought to view the situation calmly, says:

"The program of the English is solely fitted for colonial strife. Should England ever clash with one of the European powers whose army is formed according to the universal service system and possesses a well-organized reserve, then she will find how inadequate her army organization is."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

GERMAN-AMERICAN TRADE RELATIONS.

THE *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, in a long article urges the German Government to conclude a commercial treaty with the United States. The article will be read with interest on this side for several reasons. The *Kölnische* admits without further ado that Germany must not, if she can possibly help it, begin a tariff war with the United States, as the advantage would be very much on our side. On the other hand, its figures show that the trade between the two countries is pretty evenly balanced. As regards breadstuffs, Germany is rather independent of American supplies, but raw material for her industries is very much in demand. We quote as follows:

"There can be no reasonable protest against the Dingley tariff, for every country has a right to fix its duties according to its own interests, unless it is tied by treaties. German industries must try to extend their activity in spite of the tariff, just as during the period of the McKinley tariff, which, after all, was not so very destructive in its results. Germany, nevertheless, must see that she is not treated worse than other countries so long as she herself grants to the Union all rights of the most favored nation clause. That is the case with our export of sugar. No other country can justly claim the right to put a special duty on goods whose export we seek to facilitate. What would become of international commerce if every country were given the right to examine into the industrial condition of another people! A lowering of the tax rate, guaranty of interest on capital invested, cheap freight, etc., would have to be included as well as direct bounties.

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The American Government and the House of Representatives have acknowledged the justice of our claims, but the Senate, influenced by the sugar magnates, has consented to additional violation of our rights. This proves that it is high time to conclude a satisfactory commercial treaty with the United States. Our Agrarian hot-heads shout for 'repressive measures' against the United States, and do not even fear a tariff war. But such a step should be contemplated ten times ere it is taken."

The paper then quotes some interesting statistics, from which we take the following:

Germany exports to the United States goods valued at nearly $94,250,000. Of this over $12,500,000 is for sugar, the rest chiefly for manufactures such as cottons, woolens, silks, leather, steel, paints, paper, etc. The United States sends to Germany $96,000,000 worth; of which nearly $42,000,000 is for cotton and $7,500,000 for oil. Copper, skins, seed-cakes, tobacco, and wood are also important articles. All these Germany does not produce at all or in insufficient quantities; and it is not easy to exclude them. American wheat and flour exports to Germany are comparatively insignificant: $608,000 for the former, and $632,000 for the latter. There are, however, $8,000,000 for lard, $5,000,000 for Indian corn, and $1,700,000 for oleomargarin. These articles could be taxed to enforce better treatment of German sugar.

The paper then proceeds to comment as follows:

"If the above is examined without prejudice, it will be seen that Germany could not wish for a better commercial friend than the United States, since America takes our manufactures and sends us the raw material we need. Who would suffer most by a tariff war? The answer is easy to find. Yet Germany can not afford to see one of her principal articles of export treated worse than that of other countries, and a new regulation of our commercial treaties is therefore very necessary. Thus far the old treaty with Prussia—concluded in 1828—has been made to do duty for all Germany, but its legality in this respect has often been doubted. As the Dingley law enables the President to conclude treaties, it is worth our while to take advantage of this clause."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE FIGHT AGAINST LIQUOR IN GERMANY.

LIKE most Germanic races, the Germans are compelled to keep a strict watch over the drink evil. Some of their methods of combating it are, however, slightly different from ours. Thus temperance is advocated on the score of patriotism, since a nation of drunkards can not possibly be energetic enough to show a bold front to the enemies which surround it. We take the following from the *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne:

"Attentive people can not fail to notice that drunkenness is increasing in Germany, in the country as well as in the cities. Medical men, political economists, and clergymen appreciate and record the fact with much sorrow on account of its deplorable results. That the use of spirituous liquors is equally increasing in the countries around us, that some nations are even worse off in this respect, can not comfort us. Drunkenness is an inherited evil with us, and we must not mince matters in combating it. Hence we should appreciate the endeavors of our societies for the promotion of temperance, such as the Blue Cross Society, the societies of Catholic Journeymen, and the Evangelical lodging houses, all of which have done good work. The Catholic societies were founded by Kolping of Cologne in 1853, the Evangelical homes were introduced by Professor Perthes, of Bonn. Renewed activity in the battle for temperance is shown in such works as Erich Flade's 'Temperance Movement in Germany,' which should be widely circulated. The author points out that drunkenness is an enemy which may in time reduce our military strength. The excellence of our troops depends much more upon the quality of our men than the pattern of our arms. We need sober, healthy, strong, and steady men, men who can be enthusiastic without stimulants. Alcohol destroys these properties and increases our death-rate more than war and epidemics. Temperance, in conjunction with its natural ally, thriftiness, will lead to the solution of the social question by the creation of happy homes instead of a short-lived and disgusting drunken fit."

The *Echo*, Berlin, contains a typical article on the subject of Prohibition. The writer does not deny that the aims of the Prohibitionists are excellent, but he fears that Prohibition does not produce the important results aimed at. Moreover, he believes that a nation which takes the women into its councils finds that they turn instinctively to a policy of moderation, assisted by moral suasion. He quotes the case of New Zealand and gives the following lists of arguments for and against Prohibition:

FOR PROHIBITION:	AGAINST PROHIBITION.
Prohibition is synonymous with personal welfare of the people.	Prohibition undermines personal freedom.
It increases the blessings of home.	Home is endangered by secret drinking.
It strengthens men for their battle of life.	*Good* stimulants are conducive to health.
The deposits in savings-banks increase.	Where a penny had been spent before, a shilling is spent, the liquor being purchased in larger quantities.
Virtue and piety are fostered.	Men are educated to become liars and simulators.
No drunkards in the streets.	More drunkenness at home.
The saloons are closed.	"Speak-easies" and "moonshine distilleries" arise.
National wealth increases.	No laws can enforce the increase of national wealth.
Total abstinence alone strengthens a nation.	Does it? Look at Turkey!
Don't think of what you wish to do, but of what your duty is in this matter.	Preserve your liberty to drink or not, just as you please.

The writer believes that there is, at least, too much diversity of opinion to recommend Prohibition for general adoption among the nations.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

An American Trust Abroad.—Slowly but surely the Standard Oil Company is silencing competition abroad and raising itself to an industrial monopoly of such magnitude that few similar enterprises in the past or present can compare with it. The *National Zeitung*, Berlin, says:

"For a long time a Mannheim and a Bremen firm held out against the trust. They have now been convinced that it is best for them to join Mr. Rockefeller's big combine. They formed the Mannheim-Bremen Oil Company, which is but a part of the great Standard Oil Company. The evidences of the trust's influences soon showed themselves. According to the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, the wholesale dealers in western and southern Germany have been asked to sign an agreement containing the following clauses: they must not purchase from any one except the Standard Oil Company. They may not sell beyond a certain district. They may not sell more than they have sold on an average for the past three years, must not speculate in oil, must keep their books in the manner prescribed by the trust, and allow their books to be investigated by the trust at any time. They may not attempt to obtain their supply at cheaper rates from the trust.

"That the Standard Oil Company proceeds in this way just now is easily explained. Pennsylvania produced about 91,000 barrels per day in 1896, of which 70,000 went to the 'outsiders,' *i.e.*, firms not included in the trust. But the trust for a long time had all the transportation lines and pipes, and the outsiders were forced to sell at trust prices. Lately the outsiders have established their own communications and obtained tank ships; they have also obtained tank room in Germany. They further intend to build tank steamers for the Rhine. To prevent the wholesalers from dealing with the Pure Oil Company, the Standard Oil Company seeks to force the wholesalers into signing the above-mentioned agreement, which is to hold good for three years. So far the wholesalers have refused to do so."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

READING CHARACTER IN THE FACE.

HOWEVER dishonest a person may be and however clever in concealing his character, his face will throw out a warning for those who know how to interpret it; "either his round, smooth features, or his oblique glance, eyebrows, eyes, nose, and mouth and pointed chin will reveal him in his true colors." This sweeping statement may be called in question, but Mr. Richard Dimsdale Stocker is very positive that it is well-founded, and in *The Humanitarian* he tells how the facial indexes to character may be read. If the face be divided by two imaginary horizontal lines, that division including the forehead and eyes indicates the extent of intellectual capacity, that including the nose and cheek bones indicates will power, that including cheeks, lips, jaws, and chin indicates the feelings. So much for the general indications. Mr. Stocker then proceeds to more specific information. First as to the forehead, the seat of the intellect:

"If the lower part of the forehead be the fullest, so that it advances over the eyes, it indicates that the observing powers and practical faculties are in the ascendency; should the upper section be prominent or bulge forward, it shows that the reasoning powers and theoretical side of the individual are strongly represented; while, if it be filled out in the middle, and fullest in the center, it then denotes that the comparative faculties are in evidence, and that the person possessed of it has the ability to classify, to arrange his ideas, to criticize, and reason by analogy, and recollect what has taken place.

"Viewed full-face: A wide forehead shows a broader mind than does a narrow one; and a high forehead indicates more intuition and altogether loftier characteristics than a low one.

"A forehead greatly developed above, which sinks in near the eyes, indicates an infantile, crude personality."

Next as to eyebrows, the contour, position, and extent of which show the development of the perceptive organs:

"Straight eyebrows show orderly habits, a methodical turn of mind; arched or pointed ones, perception of color, taste in the arrangement of tints, and the ability to match shades and hues; while such as are set far apart from each other show the capacity for judging of sizes and proportions with a greater or less amount of accuracy.

"If the eyebrows bend down in the middle toward the eyes, so that they appear indented, as it were, they show a nature that is disposed neither to forgive nor forget, and that is resentful, or apt to give 'tit for tat.'

"According to the greater amount of space between the ridge of the eyebrow at its outer terminus and the corner of the eye, can be accurately determined the calculative powers of a person.

"When the outline of the eyebrows is straight it indicates sincerity and frankness—if, however, it should be oblique, and the hairs spring from the root of the nose, it shows elusive and deceptive tendencies."

The eye, we are told, shows by its fulness and convexity the power of speech. The size of the eye shows the degree of sentiment, fancy, regard for the opposite sex. The distance between the eyes indicates power of remembering forms and outlines. The color indicates the temperament, but on this point we get no particulars.

No other feature is so pregnant with meaning as the nose. The mere size counts for little; but its height above the cheeks unerringly indicates mental capacity and elevation of character. A pug or snub indicates either immaturity or arrested development; a Roman arch, love of power; a Greek straight nose, refinement, artistic taste, love of peace; the turn-up means vivacity and cheerfulness; the drooping-down nose, prudence, reflection, and, usually, melancholy; the hooked or beak-like nose, love of gain.

The lips are the signs of passion and appetite. The upper lip, according to its fulness and redness, shows the extent of the social attributes; the lower, the domestic traits.

"Thick lips denote sensuality and love of the good things of life; thin ones, oppositely, indicate a want of vitality, and but little capacity either for enjoyment or affording pleasure to others. The 'happy medium'—the 'proper mean'—is the best; such lips indicating a full share of the milk of human kindness, and a loving, sympathetic, feeling nature.

"Up-turned lips indicate a witty, mirthful nature; but such as descend at the angles of the mouth denote a gloomy, unhopeful temperament.

"When the space from the nose to the opening of the mouth (*i.e.*, that part of the face which is often spoken of as the 'upper lip'), is long, stiff, and full, it shows self-reliance and confidence in one's own opinions and ideas—*pride.*

"If this portion of the face is short and concave, when looked at in profile, so that the upper lip rises and exposes the teeth to view, the exact opposite state of affairs exists, viz., love of commendation and the desire to be thought well of by others—*vanity.*"

A chin projecting downward and forward indicates firmness; a short and retreating chin shows instability; a narrow chin shows an unscrupulous, cunning nature; a wide chin, a well-developed sense of honor and duty.

Football Four Hundred Years Ago.—The prevailing notion is that "flying wedges," "tandems," and other massed plays in football are modern devices. Perhaps they are, but it seems that as early as 1583, in ye Realme of England, an outcry was raised against the game as "a bloody and murthering practise." One Philip Stubbes published in that year an "Anatomie" of the abuses current in the realm, and here is what he had to say of football:

"Now who is so grosly blinde that seeth not that these aforesaid exercises not only withdraw us from godliness and virtue, but also haile and allure us to wickednesse and sins. For as concerning football-playing I protest unto you that it may rather be called a friendlie kinde of fyghte than a play or recreation—a bloody and murthering practise than a felowly sport or pastime. For dooth not everyone lye in waight for his adversarie, seeking to overthrow him and picke him on his nose, tho it be on hard stones, on ditch or dale, or valley or hill, or whatever place soever it be he careth not, so he have him downe; and he that can serve the most of this fashion he is counted the only fellow, and who but he? . . . So that by this means sometimes their necks are broken, sometimes their backs, sometimes their legs, sometimes their armes, sometimes their noses gush out with blood, sometimes their eyes start out, and sometimes hurte in one place, sometimes in another. But whosoever scapeth away the best goeth not scot-free, but is either forewounded, craised, or bruised, so as he dyeth of it or else scapeth very hardlie; and no mervaile, for they have the sleights to meet one betwixt two, to dash him against the hart with their elbowes, to butt him under the short ribs with their griped fists and with their knees to catch him on the hip and pick him on his neck, with a hundred such murthering devices. And hereof groweth envy, rancour, and malice, and sometimes brawling, murther, homicide, and great effusion of blood, as experience daily teacheth."

This extract from Goodman Stubbes His Book is used by John Corbin in an article in *The Independent* (December 16) for the purpose of showing that all the modern objections were used by the Puritans four hundred years ago, and that football has, nevertheless, survived because the objections were then, as they are now, he thinks, without any sufficient basis in fact.

CORRESPONDENTS' CORNER.

An Echo from Thanksgiving.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:—

At this season we are prone to count our beads of thankfulness. I was thinking to-day, as I spent an hour with the last issue of THE LITERARY DIGEST, that surely one thing I was thankful for was your excellent compendium of world's thought. It is a Klondike in itself, and is the most helpful periodical that comes to my table. I want to say this much, that you may know how warm a place your publication has in the hearts of hundreds like myself.

REV. JAMES M. BELDING,
Presbyterian Pastor.

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

The trade journals, in reviewing the year 1897, find numerous signs of encouragement for the coming year. Business failures have been smaller than in any year since 1892. Bank clearings show the heaviest business, both speculative and commercial, done since the record year 1892, the gain in 1897 being concentrated in the last six months, heaviest in the Northwest, the Middle and the New England States. Shipments of boots and shoes surpass those of any other year in history. Railway earnings for December have been 4.7 per cent larger than last year, and 4.7 per cent. smaller than in 1892. Railway receiverships during the year covered only 1,075 miles ($162,707,262) against 4,459 ($226,657,524) last year.

Cheerful Outlook.—"Following a series of years of alternate panic, stagnation, and slow and even painful revival, 1897 presented a large volume of business done as a whole at prices which, while not altogether satisfactory, resulted in a total of trade larger than in any previous year since 1892. Tariff changes restricted demand but encouraged speculation, and heavy imports in the first part of 1897, while the enlarged foreign demand for American breadstuffs and for some varieties of manufactured articles bettered the condition of the American farmer and, therefore, business men, quite materially, in the latter part of the year, Price conditions have not favored the Southern producer of cotton nor the Northern manufacturer of cotton goods. The best reports come from the West, Northwest, and from the Pacific coast. Prices at the close of the year are as a whole on a higher range than at the opening, advances being most numerous in food products, raw silk, and wool, while decreases are to be reported in raw cotton and cotton goods, nearly all metals, anthracite coal, and petroleum. Railroad interests share in the revival of prosperity, with gross and net earnings larger than any year since 1893, and the year 1898 opens with the business community, with the few exceptions noted, in a very cheerful frame of mind."—*Bradstreet's, January 1.*

Falling-Off of Failures.—"A heavy falling-off in number and in liabilities of individuals, firms, or corporations failing was shown in 1897 from 1896 and the four preceding years. A partial return to more or less normal conditions is further indicated by a drop in the percentage of assets to liabilities, and by a reduction in the commercial death-rate as compared with every year since and including 1893. The total number of failures reported to Bradstreet's for the year just closed was 13,099, a decrease of 2,000 failures and of over 13 per cent. from 1896, a falling-off of 15 per cent. from the panic year of 1893, and a decrease of more than 2 per cent. from 1891, a year of prosperous business, but of numerous business embarrassments. Compared with 1895, there was a gain in the number of failures shown of about half of 1 per cent., while compared with 1892 there was an increase of 27 per cent. Liabilities of those failing constituted one of the smallest totals of recent years, amounting to only $156,166,000, a decrease of 37 per cent. from 1896, of 60 per cent. from 1893, and of 19 per cent. from 1891, but a gain of 47 per cent. over 1892. The least favorable showing is made by the Eastern States, which report increases in number and liabilities over 1896. In spite of depression in cotton prices, Southern failures and liabilities are smaller than a year ago, while the greatest falling-off is reported in the West and in the Northwest. The percentage of assets to liabilities of those failing in 1897 was 54.4 per cent., the smallest percentage since 1893 and only slightly above the normal. The commercial death-rate, that is, the percentage of those in business failing in 1897, was 1.20 as compared with 1.40 in 1886 and 1.50 in 1893."—*Bradstreet's, January 1.*

Wheat, Corn, Cotton.—"After the great excitement at Chicago, wheat still goes out of the country as largely as before, from Atlantic ports 3,570,783 bushels, flour included, against 1,542,540 last year and from Pacific ports 1,712,625 bushels, and in four weeks the Atlantic exports, flour included, have been 15,060,047 bushels against 8,500,161 last year. Heavy Western receipts are only reflecting temporary conditions in the Chicago market But the extraordinary exports of corn, 14,404,905 bushels, against 9,444,853 bushels in the four weeks last year, shows how sorely foreign markets are pushed by the increasing demand for breadstuffs. Wheat has declined ⅝ of a cent with the Chicago market, and corn has meanwhile advanced ¾ of a cent. The cotton movement continues remarkably

A New Cure for "that tired feeling."

A good sleep is better than medicine any time. Nearly everyone has learned of the **Ostermoor Patent Elastic Felt Mattress,** which we deliver anywhere for **$15,** let you try it for 30 nights, and then offer to give you your money back if it does not equal in cleanliness, durability and comfort any $50 *Hair* Mattress you have ever tried.

We can't tell you all about it here; we can't quote the hundreds of letters from people of prominence who have used them for as long as 20 years without impairment; but we have just issued a new illustrated edition of our book, **"The Test of Time,"** which we will mail to any one interested upon application. If you don't need a mattress this year you may next—and it's always well "to know."

Patent Elastic Felt consists of airy, interlacing, fibrous sheets of snowy whiteness and great elasticity; closed in the tick by hand, and *never* mats, loses shape or gets lumpy. Is perfectly dry, non-absorbent, and is guaranteed vermin proof. Tick may be removed for washing without trouble. Softer and purer than hair *can be* · no re-picking or re-stuffing necessary.

Wretched imitations are offered by unscrupulous dealers—please write us if you know of such cases.

OSTERMOOR & CO.,
119 Elizabeth St., New York.

Church Cushions.

We make and renovate them quickly, thoroughly, and cheaper than you imagine. They are in use **in over 25,000 Churches.**

ST. MARK'S RECTORY, BROOKLYN, L. I.
MESSRS. OSTERMOOR & CO. June 3, 1897.

DEAR SIRS: It gives me pleasure to say that the Patent Elastic Felt Cushions furnished St. Mark's Church *twenty-five years ago to-day* are still in excellent condition, and have given good satisfaction.

I do not perceive that they have matted down, or failed in every respect to wear better than hair.

Very respectfully,
S. M. HASKINS, Rector.

Send for our book, "Church Cushions."

Intelligent Eating.

Experiment proves that man cannot live on bread made from white flour. He would die in 40 days if fed on that alone.

FRANKLIN MILLS FINE FLOUR
OF THE ENTIRE WHEAT

embraces all the elements of nutrition necessary to build up and sustain every part of the system, keeping it in good working condition and preserving it unimpaired to a ripe old age. As a health producer it is superior to any medicine in the world. It cures indigestion and kindred ailments. If your grocer does not keep it, send us his name and your order—we will see that you are supplied.

The genuine made only by the
FRANKLIN MILLS CO., LOCKPORT, N. Y.
Recipe book on request.

Stamped Steel Ceilings

Most Durable and Decorative.

Suitable for all buildings. Numerous designs.
Send for Catalogue.
H. S. NORTHROP, 52 Cherry Street, New York

ALL FILTERS ARE DANGEROUS. The only absolutely pure water aerated with sterilized air is made by **The Sanitary Still.** Write for booklet.
THE CUPRIGRAPH CO., 114 N. Green Street, CHICAGO.

SAVE ½ YOUR FUEL

By using our (stove pipe) **RADIATOR.**
With its 120 Cross Tubes,
ONE stove or furnace does the work of **TWO.** Drop postal for proofs from prominent men.
TO INTRODUCE OUR RADIATOR,
the first order from each neighborhood filled at **WHOLESALE** price, and secures an agency. Write at once.

ROCHESTER RADIATOR COMPANY,
20 Furnace St., ROCHESTER, N. Y.

SKATE SHARPENER, 10c.

Will sharpen a pair of skates in a minute better than in a half hour by old methods; reversible, hand cut cast steel file block with 4 sides. Sent as a sample of our 3,000 bargains with catalogue for **10 cents;** (Postage 2c. extra); 3 for 25c.; 90c. Doz. ROBT. H. INGERSOLL & BRO., 65 Cortlandt St. Dept. No. 17 N.Y. City.

FREE TO BALD HEADS.

We will mail on application, free information how to grow hair upon a bald head, stop falling hair, and remove scalp diseases. Address,
Altenheim Medical Dispensary
Dept. L.Z., Box 779, Cincinnati, O.

The crowning glory of woman is her hair.

AROUND THE WORLD.

The Rev. J. C. Mechlin of Salmas, Persia, purchased a Rochester Radiator some two years ago. This had to be packed on mules from the coast in land, 600 miles, the freight being $8.00. He was so pleased with results notwithstanding this item of expense, that he at once ordered from the Rochester Radiator Co., of Rochester, N. Y., a dozen more to fit up schools and hospitals at his Mission station. This certainly demonstrates that the Rochester Radiator does all that the managers claim for it.

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TO CURE NERVOUS DYSPEPSIA.

To Gain Flesh, to Sleep Well, to Know What Appetite and Good Digestion Mean, Make a Test of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets.

Interesting Experience of an Indianapolis Gentleman.

No trouble is more common or more misunderstood than nervous dyspepsia. People having it think that their nerves are to blame and are surprised that they are not cured by nerve medicine and spring remedies; the real seat of the mischief is lost sight of; the stomach is the organ to be looked after.

Nervous dyspeptics often do not have any pain whatever in the stomach, nor perhaps any of the usual symptoms of stomach weakness. Nervous dyspepsia shows itself not in the stomach so much as in nearly every other organ; in some cases the heart palpitates and is irregular; in others the kidneys are affected; in others the bowels are constipated, with headaches; still others are troubled with loss of flesh and appetite, with accumulation of gas, sour risings, and heartburn.

Mr. A. W. Sharper, of No. 61 Prospect St., Indianapolis, Ind., writes as follows. "A motive of pure gratitude prompts me to write these few lines regarding the new and valuable medicine, Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets. I have been a sufferer from nervous dyspepsia for the last four years; have used various patent medicines and other remedies without any favorable result. They sometimes gave temporary relief until the effects of the medicine wore off. I attributed this to my sedentary habits, being a bookeeper with little physical exercise, but I am glad to state that the tablets have overcome all these obstacles, for I have gained in flesh, sleep better, and am better in every way. The above is written not for notoriety, but is based on actual fact."

Respectfully yours,
A. W. Sharper,
61 Prospect St., Indianapolis, Ind.

It is safe to say that Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets will cure any stomach weakness or disease except cancer of stomach. They cure sour stomach, gas, loss of flesh and appetite, sleeplessness, palpitation, heartburn, constipation and headache.

Send for valuable little book on stomach diseases by addressing Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich.

All druggists sell full-sized packages at 50 cents.

A CRUISE TO THE MEDITERRANEAN BY NORTH

German Lloyd ss. "Aller," Feb. 5, 1898, visiting Gibraltar, Malaga, Granada, Alhambra, Algeria, Malta, Cairo, Jerusalem, Beyrout, Ephesus, Constantinople, Athens, Rome. Only $550. All shore excursions, hotels, fees, etc., included.
F. C. CLARK, Room 20, 111 Broadway, N.Y.

EUROPEAN TOURS.

16th Year. Terms reasonable. Parties limited. Conducted by
Dr. & Mrs. H. S. PAINE, Glens Falls, N.Y.

DO NOT GET ANGRY OR SWEAR

when you lose a collar button, for you can now get a complete Shirt Set of the latest style for 15c. The set consists of 7 pieces of the heaviest Rolled Gold Plate; a pair of Dumb-Bell Cuff Buttons, front Collar Button with fancy Jura Diamond set, back Collar Button with point Tie Retainer, and two Sleeve Buttons, all with Tyer Pearl backs and patent levers, also Nickel Tie Clasp. Messrs. R. H. INGERSOLL & BRO., 65 Cortlandt Street, New York, are advertising as their 1898 introduction offer to send this set post-paid with their new catalogue of 3,000 useful novelties on receipt of the price in money or stamps. The firm claim that this set, if bought in any store in the United States, would cost 60c. They guarantee the value as stated, satisfaction and a year s wear.

heavy, and yet the slight advance last week is maintained. The movement to date, altho more than seven million bales have come into sight, scarcely supports the largest current estimates. . . . The cotton industry is halted by the question of wages, altho a general reduction now seems probable. The manufacturers have been buying largely of material for worsted goods, and their purchases have stimulated buying by wool manufacturers, so that the wool markets are stronger, tho without changes in quotations."—*Dun's Review, January 1.*

Canadian Improvement.—"The prosperity of the agricultural community was at the base of the improvement in trade for 1897 reported from the Dominion of Canada. The increased prices of nearly all Canadian agricultural products and the enlarged demand for export, particularly in the last half of 1897, helped distributive trade throughout Canada. Business failures for the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland for the calendar year 1897 amounted to 1,927, with total liabilities of $13,219,000, a falling-off of 13 per cent. in number and of 19 per cent. in liabilities from a year ago. Canadian bank clearings for the year, one week estimated, were the largest on record, aggregating $1,143,000,000, a gain of 11 per cent. over 1896. [*Dun's Review*, 21 to 39 last year.]"—*Bradstreet's, January 1.*

Current Events.

Monday, December 27.

The State Department makes another plea for the relief of the **Cuban sufferers**. . . . The **Overman Wheel Company,** Chicopee Falls, Mass., assigns. . . . The **Fall River manufacturers** decline to change the proposed reduction of wages. . . . It is announced that **Horace G. Burt,** third vice-president of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, has been chosen for the **presidency of the Union Pacific** Railroad Company. . . . C. M. Charnley, ex-treasurer of the Presbyterian Board of Aid for Colleges and Academies, is indicted in Chicago for embezzlement.

Kin-Chau, north of Port Arthur, is **occupied by the Russians**. . . . **Great Britain declines** to enter into an agreement with the United States, Russia, and Japan, **to stop sealing** in Bering Sea. . . . The **striking engineers** reject the proposals of employers in London. . . . The public prosecutor in Paris asks that adequate **sentences** be imposed upon Messrs. Arton, St. Martin, Maret, and Planteau, for connection with the **Panama canal intrigues**. . . . The **Spanish Government** issues a note regarding the latest note from this Government; **General Ruiz Riviera,** the captured Cuban leader, arrives in Spain, and will be imprisoned indefinitely.

Tuesday, December 28.

A rumor that **Secretary Gage** had offered his **resignation** as Secretary of the Treasury, is denied. . . . The **Cabinet discusses** relief measures for **Cubans**. . . . **Republicans of Indiana** hold a conference at Indianapolis. . . . The appellate division of the supreme court, Brooklyn, affirms the **injunction to prevent** the granting of a **franchise** to a street railway company, in perpetuity. . . . Persons arriving at Seattle, from Dawson City, say that the government relief expedition to the **Klondike** is unnecessary.

China is becoming **alarmed** over the uncertainty of the attitude of the powers; **British and Japanese war-ships** arrive at Port Hamilton, south of Korea. . . . The **Japanese Cabinet resigns,** owing to the war spirit. . . . It is denied that **tariff negotiations** between the United States and Germany have been broken off. . . . The late Dr. **Thomas W. Evans,** American dentist, who recently died in Paris, leaving an estate of four million dollars, made two wills, which will be contested.

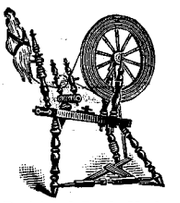
Wednesday, December 29.

The President signs the bill **prohibiting pelagic sealing** and also the importation of

There is but one good make of lamp-chimneys — Macbeth — and your dealer knows it.

You want the Index.

Write Macbeth Pittsburgh Pa



Registered Trade Mark

"The Linen Store"

Annual Sale

Hemstitched Bed Linen

PILLOW CASES.

22½ x 36 inches, at $1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00, 3.50 per pair.
25 x 36 " at $1.50, 1.75, 2.25, 2.75, 3.00, 4.00 per pair.
27 x 36 " at $1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00, 3.50, 4.50 per pair.

BOLSTER CASES.

21 x 60 inches, at $1.25, 1.50, 2.00 each
21 x 72 " at $1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.50 "
22½ x 72 " at $2.25, 2.75, 3.25 "

SHEETS (Single bed size).

$3.50, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00. 7.50, 10.00 per pair

SHEETS (Double bed size).

$4.00, 5.00, 6.50, 7.50, 9.00, 10.50, 12.50 15.00, 17.50, 20.00 per pair

All the goods offered in this sale are throughout not only pure linen, but also of Linen Store quality and reliability.

Send for book describing all of the goods offered.

James McCutcheon & Co.

14 West 23d Street, N. Y.

New Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases. Rheumatism, etc.—Free to Our Readers.

Our readers will be glad to know that the new botanical discovery, Alkavis, has proved an assured cure for all diseases caused by Uric acid in the blood, or by disordered action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. It is a wonderful discovery, with a record of 1,200 hospital cures in 30 days. It acts directly upon the blood and kidneys, and is a true specific, just as quinine is in malaria. Rev. W. B. Moore, D.D., of Washington, testifies in the New York *Christian Witness* that Alkavis completely cured him of Kidney and Bladder disease of many years' standing. Many ladies also testify to its curative powers in disorders peculiar to womanhood. So far the Church Kidney Cure Company, No. 418 Fourth Avenue, New York, are the only importers of this new remedy, and they are so anxious to prove its value that for the sake of introduction they will send a free treatment of Alkavis prepaid by mail to every reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who is a Sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Gravel, Pain in Back, Female Complaints, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. We advise all Sufferers to send their names and address to the Company, and receive the Alkavis free. It is sent to you entirely free, to prove its wonderful curative powers.

Readers of THE LITERARY DIGEST are asked to mention the publication when writing to advertisers.

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sealskins. . . . Assets of the defunct **Maverick National Bank,** of Boston, amounting to $1,095,890, are sold at auction for $429,000. . . . The **Fall River** operatives decide to accept reduction of wages; **miners** are on **strike** in Tennessee, and propose a strike in northern Colorado; miners along the line of the Cincinnati Southern Railway end a strike by accepting 5 per cent. reduction. . . . William J. Linton, engraver and writer, dies in New Haven.

The **French seize** the island of **Hai-Nan,** off the south coast of China. . . . Captain-General **Blanco issues a decree** concerning the home-rule government in Cuba. . . . Fire in Port-au-Prince, **Haiti,** leaves three thousand people homeless. . . . The **Anglo-Egyptian** forces capture Osobri, the last Dervish post between Kassala and Khartoum. . . . **Leon Carvalho,** director of the Opéra Comique, dies in Paris. . . . **France** grants a **subsidy** of 500,000 francs for a steamship line between France and Canada.

Thursday, December 30.

Arrangements are completed at Washington for a joint conduct of a **Klondike relief expedition** by the United States army, and Canadian police. . . . The Treasury Department issues regulations to effect **prohibition of pelagic sealing.** . . . It is reported that **insurance commissioners** in ten States west of the Mississippi **have agreed** to compel insurance companies to submit to the publication of an audit of their accounts. . . . The governor of **Tennessee** called an **extra session** of the legislature for January 17. . . . A memorial to Congress, asking for an improvement of the **Chicago River,** is adopted by representatives of the municipal government and commercial organizations of Chicago.

A semi-official denial is made in France regarding the occupation of **Hai-Nan.** . . . **Marquis Ito** is forming a Cabinet in Japan. . . . It is stated that the **British squadron** has assembled **at Chemulpo** in support of a protest against the dismissal of McLeavy Brown, superintendent of Korean customs. . . . The cost of the **famine** in India, according to official reports, was nearly $15,000,000. . . . French deputies and others are acquitted of connection with the **Panama canal scandal.** . . . Emperor Francis Joseph orders the Austrian **Reichsrath** to be closed. . . . Captain-General Blanco issues an edict permitting the importation of **tobacco from Cuba.**

Friday, December 31.

Government receipts for December show a **surplus** of $1,735,494; Mr. **Dingley** makes a statement in regard to revenue. . . . The director of the mint estimates the **world's product of gold** for 1897 at $240,000,000, an increase of nearly 20 per cent. over 1896. . . . New Bedford and Rhode Island **cotton manufacturers** announce a **reduction of wages,** affecting forty-five thousand hands. . . . The birthday of Greater New York is celebrated.

A compromise between the British and Russian agents in **Korea** is said to have been effected. . . . Further **missionary trouble** is reported **in Shan-Tung** province, which may delay negotiations with Germany. . . . The **French expedition** occupies Fashoda **on the Nile,** four hundred miles south of Khartoum. . . . Captain-General Blanco signs the appointments of **new Cuban officers.** . . . The **Rothschilds** are said to be financiering a Russian oil company **to compete with the Standard Oil Company** in Great Britain.

Saturday, January 1.

Mayor Van Wyck assumes office in Greater New York, and announces his appointments. . . . County **Judge Clearwater** is appointed to succeed, in the New York **supreme court,** Alton B. Parker, who was elected justice of the court of appeals. . . . J. Hoge Tyler is inaugurated governor of Virginia. . . . A Cleveland, Ohio, firm receives an order for four million tons of **iron ore** from Cardiff, Wales.

The **provisional government of Cuba** is formally inaugurated in Havana. . . . It is said that the **Russian agent in Korea** has been invested with power to antagonize the British and Japanese influences in commercial relations. . . . Sir Henry **Irving's new play** "Peter the Great," written by his son Laurence, is successfully produced in London.

Sunday, January 2.

Governor **Bushnell,** of Ohio, openly declares himself candidate for United States Senator **against Senator Hanna.** . . . The **report of the Indianapolis monetary commission** is made public.

A local **Chinese commandant,** who had threatened missionaries, is **dismissed** at the demand of the German ambassador at Peking. . . . It is rumored that the **English admiral fired on a Russian man-of-war** in Chinese waters. . . . **Bread riots** occur **in Sicily.**

Small Mail Remittances

and larger expenses can be equally well met by use of the **DOLLAR CHECKS** of the Cheque Bank, drawn on the Bank of New York, for any amount from 10 cents to $2.00—available at shops, hotels, banks, etc. They are just like the celebrated **Cheque Bank Cheques** which are in pounds sterling from £1 up—available in every country in the world. Full information given of each to all applicants.

AGENCY OF
THE CHEQUE BANK, LIMITED,
FREDERICK W. PERRY, Manager,
40 & 42 WALL STREET, NEW YORK.

KAREZZA ETHICS OF MARRIAGE.

A bold, brave book, teaching ideal marriage, rights of the unborn child, a designed and controlled maternity.
Union Signal: Thousands of women have blessed Dr. Stockham for **Tokology,** thousands of men and women will bless her for **Karezza.**
Arena: Karezza is worth its weight in gold.
Sample pages free. **Agents Wanted.** Prepaid $1.00
ALICE B. STOCKHAM & CO., 277 MADISON ST., CHICAGO

D. L. DOWD'S HEALTH EXERCISER.

For Gentlemen, Ladies, Youths; athlete or invalid. Complete gymnasium; takes 6in. floor room; new, scientific, durable, cheap. Indorsed by 100,000 physicians, lawyers, clergymen, and editors now using it; Ill'd circular, 40 engravings free. Scientific Physical and Vocal Culture, 9 East 14th Street, New York.
A Reliable House.

UNFOUNDED RUMORS

of imminent war in the East. The concentrating in the Eastern seas of so many war-vessels of the great European powers has given rise to much speculation as to the future of pleasure-travel 'round the world, and for that matter to Europe and the Orient.

We understand that Henry Gaze & Sons, Ltd., the Universal Tourist agents, are not disturbed by the outlook—on the contrary, they have got out quite a large volume of interesting illustrated printed programs of tours to Europe, Egypt, Palestine, Greece, and an exceptionally attractive program for a conducted party 'round the world.

The current number of *Gaze's Tourist Gazette* contains page after page of interesting information about travel in all countries, at rates so low as to prove very attractive.

Any DIGEST readers contemplating a tour to the Mediterranean or Egypt, the West Indies or Venezuela, should send a postal to General Manager Crunden, 113 Broadway, who will be pleased to mail free all the requisite information and printed matter.

Convincing × Letters

In our booklet of testimonials regarding the Electropoise appeared the following:

CATARRH OF STOMACH

68 Gardner Ave., JERSEY CITY, N. J., May 15, 1897.

I have suffered with catarrh of the stomach and dyspepsia for fourteen years and the Electropoise has entirely cured me. If I were able I would see that every poor person had one of these life-savers. ARTHUR C. GILLETTE.

Under date of December 23 inst. Mr. Gillette received a letter of enquiry, in reply to which he wrote the following, under date of December 28th:

68 Gardner Ave., JERSEY CITY, N. J., Dec. 28th, 1897.

Mr. F. H. B., 590 Melrose Ave., West, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:—Your favor of the 23d inst. to hand, and contents fully noted. In reply I will say, first, that I have forwarded your letter to Mr. DuBois of New York City. He is the president of the company, and patentee of the Electropoise, and may possibly let you have one on trial. If not, the price is only $10.00. I assure you I would not take $10,000.00 for mine, provided I could not secure another. As far as my sending my Electropoise, I do not wish to part with it, for I have a wife and three children, and the Electropoise is my safeguard against *disease of all kinds.* I would purchase one for you, but cannot afford it. Yours very truly, ARTHUR C. GILLETTE.

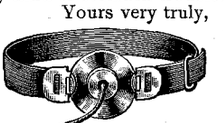
And also on same date the following letter to the Electrolibration Company:

68 Gardner Ave., JERSEY CITY, N. J., Dec. 28, 1897.

Dr. DUBOIS, New York.

Dear Sir:—I enclose you letter received by me; also my answer to same. I will say one time more: the Electropoise has done wonders for me; I heartily recommend it to any one suffering with any kind of stomach trouble.

Yours very truly, ARTHUR C. GILLETTE.



An Oxygen Home Remedy Without Medicine

OFTEN CURES CASES PRONOUNCED *"INCURABLE"*

"HOW?"—By its new method of introducing oxygen directly into the entire circulation. Revitalizing and invigorating diseased and worn-out organs, recuperating the system, purifying the blood, and restoring the body to its normal condition.

ELECTROLIBRATION CO., Room 15, 1122 Broadway, New York.

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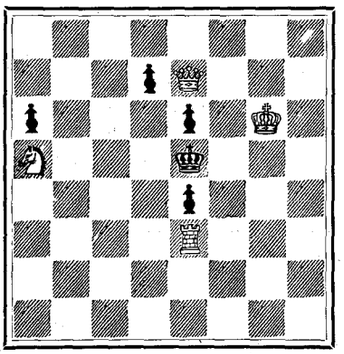
CHESS.

All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

Problem 251.

BY M. FRAISSÉ.

Black—Five Pieces.



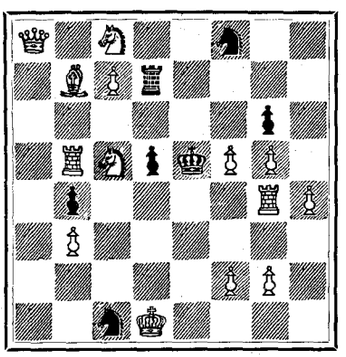
White—Four Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

Problem 252.

BY THE REV. J. JESPERSON.

Black—Seven Pieces.



White—Fourteen Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 245.

1. R—B 8	B x R	2. K—B 6, mate
1.	B—B 3	2. K x B, mate
1.	B (K 2) any other	2. K—B 6, mate
1.	B (Kt 8) Q 6	2. Q—B 3, mate
1.	B (Kt 8)—B 7	2. Q x B, mate
1.	B (Kt 8)—R 7	2. Q—B 2, mate
1.	Q—B 5	2. P x Q, mate
1.	Q—R 4 ch	2. K x Q, mate
1.	Q—R 6, 7, 8	2. Kt—B 2, mate
1.	Q—Kt 6 B 7 K 8	2. K—R 5, mate
1.	Q—Kt 5	2. Kt—B 2, mate
1.	Kt (R 5), any	2. Kt—B 3, mate
1.	Kt (Q sq) any	2. K—B 7, mate
1.	P—K 4	2. K—Kt 7, mate
1.	P x P	2. Q x P, mate
1.	P—Q 5	2. P x P, mate
1.	P—Kt 5	2. R—B 4, mate

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; "Spifflicator," New York City; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; W. G. Donnan, Independence, Iowa; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; C. F. Putney, Independence, Iowa; C. Q. De France, Lincoln, Neb.; R. J. Moore, Riverton, Ala.; B. B. W., Macalester College, St. Paul; J. C. Eppers.

Comments: "One of the most beautiful and difficult problems I have seen"—M. W. H. "Good"—S. "A merry mystifier"—I. W. B. "I have never seen a more beautiful two-mover"—F. S. F. "Splendid composition"—W. S. D. "An admirable two-mover"—F. H. J. "An A No. 1 problem"—C. F. P. "Very ingenious"—C. Q. De F. "It's a sapsucker"—R. J. M.

No. 246.

1. Q—Q 2	2. R—Q 5 ch	3. Q x P, mate
B moves	P x R must	
1.	2. R x•P ch	3. Q—Q 6, mate
Kt—B 6	B x R	
	2.	3. R x Kt, mate
	Kt—K 5	
1.	2. Kt—R 4	3. Kt—Kt 6, mate
P x Q or K 7	Any	
1.	2. Q—R 2	3. Kt—Kt 6, mate
P—B 6	Any	
1.	2. Q x Kt P	3. Q x B, mate
P—Kt 5	B x P	
	2.	3. Q—Kt 8, mate
	Any other	

Correct solution received from M. W. H.; J. G. O'Callaghan, Low Moor, Va.; "Spifflicator," F. S. Ferguson, J. C. Eppers, R. J. Moore.

Comments: "Beautiful and intricate"—M. W. H. "Grand! A worthy prize-winner"—S. This is an unusually difficult problem"—F. S. F. "Certainly, a fine one"—J. C. E. "Like the traditional hog on ice"—R. J. M.

W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla., and F. B. Osgood, North Conway, N. H., got Problem 243. C. Q. De France was successful with 244.

CONCERNING PROBLEM 247.

The little South American has proved itself to be a puzzler, indeed. We have received very many solutions (?), but only three of our solvers have sent the correct solution. Several of those who did not get it assure us that the problem is unsound—having several key-moves; that it is the work of a tyro, and that it is too simple to have any merit. Now, we assure our friends that it is as sound as a nut, has only *one* key-move, and is, as one of those who got it remarks, "A veritable gem of Chess."

Inter-Collegiate Tourney.

The sixth annual Chess-Tournament between Columbia, Harvard, Yale and Princeton began on Monday, December 27, in New York City.

The players were as follows: Columbia—Arthur S. Meyer and George O. Seward; Harvard—James Hewins and Elmer Southard; Yale—Lewis A. Cook and W. M. Murdock; Princeton—David T. Dana and William T. Young.

The full score is as follows:

	Won.	*Lost.*
Harvard	10	2
Columbia	6½	5½
Yale	4½	7½
Princeton	3	9

The individual scores are:

	Won.	*Lost.*
Southard	6	0
Meyer	4½	1½
Hewins	4	2
Young	3	3
Cook	3	3
Seward	2	4
Murdock	1½	4½
Dana	0	6

The following is the summary of the games won from the beginning of the tournaments to date:

Years.	*Harvard.*	*Columbia.*	*Yale.*	*Princeton.*
1892	7½	9	5	2½
1893	7	8½	5	3½
1894	9	3	6	6
1895	8½	8	3½	4
1896	10	4½	4	5½
1897	10	6½	4½	3
Total	52	39½	28	24½

The Correspondence Tourney.

In the thirtieth game, as published, there was no reason for Black to resign. But his 7th move was B—K 3, and as he lost a piece the next move, with a bad position, he thought it best to give it up.

THIRTY-THIRD GAME.

J. S. SMITH, Linneus, Mo.		R. R. TAYLOR, Miami, Fla.	J. S. SMITH.	R. R. TAYLOR.
White.		*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4		P—K 4	4 P—Q 3	B—B 4
2 Kt-K B 3		Kt—K B 3	5 B x Kt	Game abandoned.
3 B—Kt 5		Kt—B 3		

THIRTY-FOURTH GAME.

Center Gambit.

H. N. BULLARD.	A. L. JONES, Montgomery, Ala.	H. N. BULLARD.	A. L. JONES.
White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	8 Q—K 4	Q—B 3
2 P—Q 4	P x P	9 B-Q Kt 5	B—Q B 4
3 Q x P	Kt—Q B 3	10 Kt-K B 3	Castles
4 Q-Q 5 (a)	Kt—B 3	11 Castles	Q Kt—K 2
5 Q—B 4	P—Q 4	12 Kt-KKt5	B—K B 4
6 P x P	Kt x P	13 Q—K R 4	P—K B 3
7 B—K 2	B—K 3	14 P—Q B 4	Kt—Kt 3
		Resigns.	

Notes by One of the Judges.

(a) Better retire the Q to Q sq. The Q is kept popping about while Black is getting his pieces into play. There is no need for comment on this game. White got himself in trouble on his fourth move, and never got out of it. It is noticeable that when White resigned he had not moved his Q Kt and Q B.

The Chess-Board.

[*Written by Owen Meredith, for Chess-Player's Chronicle, 1859.*]

My little love, do you remember
Ere we were grown so sadly wise,
Those evenings in the bleak December,
Curtained warm from the snowy weather,
When you and I played Chess together,
Checkmated by each other's eyes?

Ah, still I see your soft, white hand
Hovering warm o'er Queen and Knight,
Brave Pawns in valiant battle stand;
The double Castles guard the wings;
The Bishop, bent on distant things,
Moves, sidling, through the fight.

Our fingers touch; our glances meet,
And falter; falls your golden hair
Against my cheek; your bosom sweet
Is heaving. Down the field, your Queen
Rides slow her soldiery all between,
And checks me unaware.

Ah me! the little battle's done,
Disperst is all its chivalry;
Full many a move since then have we
'Mid life's perplexing checkers made,
And many a game with Fortune played—
What is it we have won?
This, this at least—if this alone—
That never, never, never more,
As in those old still nights of yore
(Ere we were grown so sadly wise)
Can you and I shut out the skies,
Shut out the world and wintry weather,
And, eyes exchanging warmth with eyes,
Play Chess, as then we play'd together.

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